

CATHERINE DENEUVE

Growing older with exquisite style

New films, page 33



MARGOT NORMAN

Restoring standards to the classroom

School violence, Page 16



START OF THE FLAT

Time of dreams as the classics beckon

Racing, page 41

TRAVEL ON THURSDAY Pages 30, 31

THE TIMES

No. 64,601 THURSDAY MARCH 25 1993 45p

Dubliners queue to offer sympathy to Warrington

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

PEOPLE in Dublin turned out in thousands yesterday to sign books of condolences to be sent to the mayor of Warrington in the wake of the IRA bombings at the weekend.

They queued throughout the day at the General Post Office on O'Connell Street, some waiting for half an hour to add their names. Among the hundreds waiting at lunchtime were women unable to discuss the murder of three-year-old Johnathan Ball without weeping.

Mary Carroll, 60, a legal secretary, said she wanted to show the people of Britain how deeply she felt for the victims of the bombing. She talked of Wilf Ball, Johnathan's father and said that she could tell, watching him on television, how much he had wanted a son. Now his life had been taken away.

Another woman, who asked not to be named, spoke on the brink of tears about her eight-day-old daughter, who died at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children in London last July. British doctors had responded to an SOS call from their Dublin colleagues and had done so much to try to save her baby, yet her countrymen had now killed a three-year-old English boy, she said.

The queues outside the post office building, where Irish independence was declared 77 years ago, is further evidence that a spontaneous new peace movement could be developing in the republic as a result of Warrington. The Peace Train organisation which made the books of condolence available, said about 4,000 people had signed by lunchtime, in spite of there being no advance advertising.

Many of those queueing spoke enthusiastically about the initiative taken by Susan McHugh, a housewife from the north of the city, who last night was holding a public meeting at Trinity College to try to organise a mass demonstration against the IRA.

Rita O'Kelly, 57, a financial controller who was among those who queued for nearly half an hour during her lunch-break to sign, said she had waited too long for an opportunity to unite with others to send a new signal to the IRA. "We want a national demonstration — you've no idea how we feel in Ireland," she said. "We feel helpless, but we know what we want to do." Then she added: "Not that we believe the psychopaths who are running the IRA will listen to anybody, but we feel we want to show them."

Mrs McHugh's ideas were endorsed yesterday by Dublin City Council, whose members joined across party lines to support the idea of a mass protest. One councillor said: "We also want to show people everywhere that the IRA does not enjoy the support of the community here."

Events in Dublin yesterday came as the troubles in Northern Ireland claimed their twentieth victim of the year when a Sinn Fein member was shot dead by the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters. Police said the victim, Peter Gallagher, from Toomebridge, Co Antrim, had just arrived for work at a construction site in west Belfast when a lone gunman fired several shots at him from beyond the site's perimeter fence.

Mr Gallagher, who was 44 and married with six children, died very shortly after being hit. His death came after a Loyalist attempt on the life of a Sinn Fein councillor in the city on Tuesday night, when a grenade was thrown into his house. Neither he nor his wife and children were injured.

Life or death, page 3
Leading article, page 19

South Africa had nuclear bombs, admits de Klerk

BY MICHAEL HAMLYN
IN JOHANNESBURG
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SOUTH Africa admitted for the first time yesterday that it had built six atom bombs, although President de Klerk said they had all now been dismantled.

The confirmation of what had long been suspected came at a specially summoned joint meeting of the country's three houses of parliament. The programme had been established in 1974, but only six of the seven planned devices had been completed by the time it was terminated in 1990.

Mr de Klerk had now decided to provide full information. "South Africa's hands are clean we are concealing nothing," he said.

The president also told the parliament that no test had been carried out and that South Africa had worked with no other country. It has long been surmised that Israel was involved in South Africa's nuclear programme, and there was concern in Jerusalem yesterday that Mr de Klerk's statement would expose the Jewish state's role — and its own armoury of up to 200 nuclear warheads.

Although Israeli officials refuse to comment, the two countries are known to have co-operated extensively in the development of both conventional and nuclear arms. The relationship is believed to have blossomed after the 1967 Six Day War, when France stopped its military assistance to Israel, which had to look elsewhere for allies.

Israel effectively traded its technical knowledge in the field of nuclear physics for the uranium ore and strategic materials mined in South Africa. At the height of the co-operation between the two countries, when John Vorster was South Africa's prime minister, the governments had at least six secret agreements on nuclear weapons development. In 1976, Mr Vorster announced to the world that his country was interested only in peaceful applications of nuclear power, but he warned: "We can enrich uranium and we have the capability."

The strengthening alliance with Israel was believed to have led to at least one joint test — in the south Atlantic in 1979 — although the International Atomic Energy Agency denied that the double flash seen then had been a nuclear test. A scientist who worked on the project said yesterday that he was convinced that it had been, and at least two others are believed to have been halted after preparations were spotted by American and Russian satellites.

The atomic agency said, however, that it had no evidence that the South Africans had ever tested their weapon and Mr de Klerk insisted yesterday: "South Africa has never conducted a clandestine test."

Mr de Klerk also told his parliament that no advance nuclear explosives — H-bombs — were manufactured and that all nuclear material had been returned to the custody of the atomic energy commission. R.F. "Pik" Botha, the foreign mininister said later that an auditor had been appointed to ensure that every gram of enriched uranium used had been accounted for.

The programme, which cost between between 700 and 800 million rands (£150 to £170 million), was known to at most a thousand people at any

Continued on page 2, col 1

Hanging ruling, page 14



Safe hands: United Nations soldiers carrying children from a Tuzla air base after French helicopters evacuated civilians from Srebrenica yesterday. The mission was suspended temporarily after Serbs shelled the landing zone in a football stadium. Page 10

Schoolboy accused of raping his teacher

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY
AND STEWART TENDLER

THE alleged classroom rape of a teacher by a 13-year-old pupil in a south London comprehensive school prompted an emergency check on school safety procedures by the London borough of Southwark yesterday.

The incident, which if substantiated would be the first case in Britain of a teacher being raped by a pupil, is said to have happened last Friday and involved the boy, a fellow pupil aged 14 and a supply teacher in her 20s who teaches French and who had been at the school for a few weeks.

The teacher, who lives in west London, is now on leave.

According to Scotland Yard the alleged attack took place at 3.15 pm while the teacher was alone in a classroom with the two boys. She was allegedly attacked by the boys but the attack was stopped by the arrival of another member of staff.

Police confirmed yesterday that they were dealing with a clear allegation of rape involving the 13-year-old and not one of indecent assault. Police also said that there were no allegations that a knife was used in the attack.

A 13-year-old cannot be charged with rape because a 19th-century law says that a child under the age of 14 is not capable of such a serious sexual attack. If a boy under 14 was charged, he could face allegations of indecent assault.

Both boys have been released on police bail but with no date set for their return to see police.

Teacher attacked, page 3
Margot Norman, page 16

Yeltsin drops direct rule in effort to avoid impeachment

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin has dropped the introduction of direct presidential rule that he announced at the weekend in a move calculated to ward off preparations by parliamentary hardliners to impeach him.

The final version of his decree yesterday contained no reference to the "special rule" he had earlier declared necessary. It also omitted his pronouncement on Saturday that any action by the legislature contradicting his order was automatically invalid — two of the main clauses that had caused the country's highest court to pronounce on Tuesday that his statement violated the constitution.

Instead, the document referred to "urgent measures ... aimed at stabilising the situation and providing conditions for economic reform", a formulation so bland that even his most vituperative enemies will find it hard to quarrel with it. However, the document does keep plans for a plebiscite next month to determine national confidence in his leadership and his spokesman said the president was still seeking a vote to change the Brezhnev-era constitution that is hindering the implementation of reform, a move that the legislature, fearful of extinction at the hands of the electorate, will oppose.

The compromise failed to facilitate an agreement between Mr Yeltsin and his chief rival for power, Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary chairman, who opposes a vote of confidence. Talks between the two men were broken off after only 15 minutes without agreement yesterday afternoon, with a tight-lipped Mr Khasbulatov announcing merely that the meeting had "clarified the situation".

The standing parliament also pressed ahead with its resolution to convene the Congress of People's Deputies tomorrow with the aim of impeaching Mr Yeltsin.

Aid to Russia, page 11
William Rees-Mogg, page 18

MPs call for ombudsman to punish erring papers

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NEWSPAPERS could be ordered to pay compensation to aggrieved readers and subjected to unlimited fines, under sweeping changes to existing press regulations proposed by MPs yesterday.

Under the proposals, drawn up by the all-party Commons national heritage committee, the industry would also be required to set up a hotline to enable readers to complain.

The committee's report, *Privacy and Media Intrusion*, would maintain the current self-regulatory system of a press commission but would add an extra layer of policing in the form of an ombudsman with statutory powers to punish papers that infringed a new code of practice. The committee also calls for the introduction of a protection of privacy bill to protect individuals from media harassment and supports legislation to ban "electronic intrusion". But it recommends an extension of the public's right of access to information.

Some editors believe that the report has gone too far. Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, said that it recommended a degree of intrusion "greater than anything that existed under Nazi Germany" and Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, said the reforms were "bewildering and confusing".

Right to know, page 5
Leading article, page 19

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

A suitable success



AS HIS 1,394-page novel A Suitable Man is published today, Vikram Seth is already being hailed as a literary titan. His epic story of a young woman's quest for a husband in an India just coming to terms with independence and partition is described by Daniel Johnson today as perhaps the most prodigious work of the latter half of the century (Books, page 37).

ON SATURDAY Times readers can judge for themselves — when an extract from this teeming novel is published in the Weekend section. Meanwhile tomorrow, Seth is interviewed in The Times by Valerie Grove.

Pop art's pop



THREE DECADES ago the paintings of Roy Lichtenstein were shown only in avant-garde galleries. Now they merit a serious retrospective at the Tate in Liverpool. In an exclusive interview for the new Times Magazine on Saturday, Kate Muir meets the enfant terrible of pop art, now 70, in his studio.

Irish eyes

THE SPELL of Connemara, the joy of Galway and Cork, remote islands set in a turbulent seascape — Pleasures of Ireland, a special supplement with The Times tomorrow.

Arts	33-35
Births, marriages, deaths	20
Body and Mind	17
Books	36,37
Business	23-28,32
Concise Crossword	44
Court and Social	20
Crossword	22
Diary	18
Law Report	38
Leading articles	19
Letters	19
Obituaries	20
Racing	41
Sport	39-42,44
Times Today	22
Travel	30,31
Weather	22
TV & radio	43

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 65; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 250; Cyprus C£1.00; Denmark Dkr 16.00; Finland Mkk 15.00; France F 12.00; Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 80p; Greece Dr 250; Holland Gl 4.00; Irish Republic 60p; Italy L 3,300; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 275; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 25.00; Norway Kr 16.00; Portugal Esc 275; Spain Pes 250; Sweden Skr 17.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.80; Tunisia Din 2.00; USA $3.00.

9 770140 046244 12

Beauty with inner strength.

Ford

See centre pages.

Heseltine pit rescue begins to sway rebel Conservatives

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, JILL SHERMAN AND ROSS TIEMAN

MICHAEL Heseltine's hopes of pushing his revised pit closure plan through the Commons rose last night after signs that he had succeeded in buying off enough potential rebels to avoid defeat.

The way was also cleared for the President of the Board of Trade to publish his white paper on the future of the coal industry today with the disclosure of an agreement on coal contracts with the power generators worth £5.76 billion in the next five years.

As Mr Heseltine embarked on a last-minute effort to win over the doubters to his two-year plan to rescue 13 threatened pits, it emerged that MPs could debate the new package as early as next Tuesday, an indication of ministerial confidence in it. Signs that the strength of the rebellion was waning last night came as only 12 of the 30-strong Conservative coal group attended a meeting to discuss tactics.

A package of regional aid worth about £100 million is to be allocated to areas most affected by the closures. British Coal was last night drawing up a list of pits that can be saved in the shorter term.

Mr Heseltine will also announce a new agreement to import less French power. He will bring forward to this year the government's long-awaited review of civil nuclear policy, raising doubts over whether some of the older Magnox plants will be kept going.

He is expected to foreshadow early legislation allowing some of the threatened 31 pits to be offered under licence to private sector operators, to lift the limit of 150 workers that such mines can employ, and to change workshift patterns to allow miners to stay longer underground. There will also be limits on the quantity of imports of the coal substitute orimulsion allowed into Britain.

The cabinet will formally approve the white paper, which was being printed yesterday, this morning and Mr Heseltine will make a statement to the Commons this afternoon.

Agreement was reached yesterday on electricity purchase contracts worth £13 billion, underpinning coal sales of 160 million tonnes over five years.

Senior Tory MPs predicted that the revolt against the government next week would be smaller than that in October after the ill-fated announcement that 31 pits were to close with the loss of 30,000 jobs. Some MPs, including Elizabeth Peacock, Richard Alexander and Nicholas Winterton, appeared last night to remain implacably opposed to Mr Heseltine's new plans. But others who rebelled in October, including Dr Michael Clark, MP for Rochford, indicated that they would back the government.

Sir Patrick McNair-Wilson, MP for New Forest, who abstained in October, said he would now support Mr Heseltine. The previous plans had been ill thought out and rushed, he said.

But Nicholas Winterton, MP for Macclesfield, said the plan was "totally unacceptable" and "pathetic". There was no guarantee that the rescued pits would stay open after two years.

Neil Hamilton, the junior trade minister, urged the rebels to support the proposals yesterday. "We are mining a rich seam of support in the back benches," he said, after opening a London conference of the World Coal Institute.

"I hope that whatever is decided upon will command all the support of my colleagues. The government has tried its hardest to take into account all the concerns that have been expressed in recent months."

Winston Churchill, MP for Davyhulme, who also criticised the closure plans, said if the package represented only a short-term political fix it would not get through the Commons.

Strike mars Ford's key model launch

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE multi-million-pound launch of Ford's most important car for a decade will today be marred by a strike by thousands of workers.

Nearly 1,000 showrooms will be unveiling the new Mondeo mid-range car, on which Ford is pinning its hopes of recovery from record financial losses. The gloss will, however, be wiped from the occasion by the walk-out of up to 8,000 white collar workers from key plants in a dispute over Ford's threat to order compulsory redundancies for the first time in 25 years.

Although the MSF white collar union does not expect a complete response, all six of Ford's biggest manufacturing and research plants will be hit. Almost 3,500 workers at the factories at Dagenham, Essex, and Halewood, on Merseyside, and research workers at Dunton, Essex, have indicated that they will join the protest.

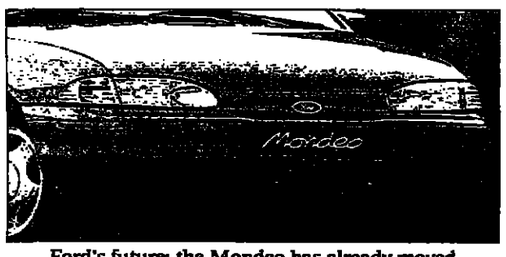
Union leaders said that this was a strike that they did not want. Ford wishes to cut office and research jobs by 2,200, including 1,000 this year. All but 88 redundancies have been found from volunteers, but Ford says that it wants the last few mopped up this month and will issue compulsory notices if necessary. Only days ago, Ford told manual worker unions that it was withdrawing a threat of compulsory redundancies although its voluntary programme to cut the workforce fell 300 short. The company said that an expected upturn in sales this year meant that workers could stay on.

Jim Thomas, MSF national officer, said yesterday: "We cannot understand why Ford is pushing so hard. We are almost there and we have co-operated right down the line, but the company seems determined to go on with the compulsory threat to white collar staff."

The dispute could not come at a worse time for Ford, anxious to direct all publicity towards the Mondeo launch.

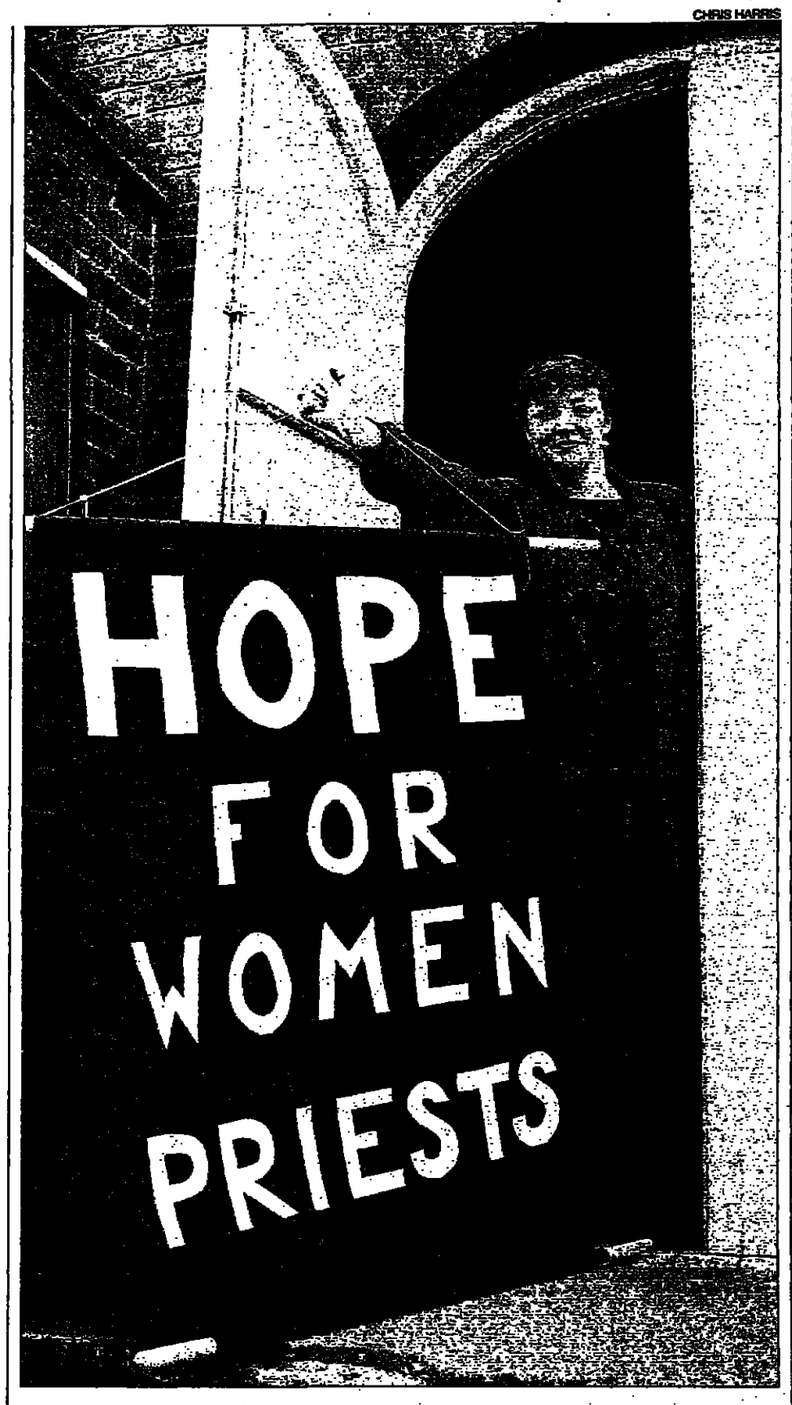
The company is understood to have suffered its second-worst loss last year with a deficit of about £300 million.

The Mondeo is seen as the first key ingredient of recovery. The model, with its appeal to company car buyers, has entered the list of top 10 best-selling cars even before launch day. In the first 20 days of the month, the Mondeo was in fourth place, with 2,897 cars registered. Most are thought to be dealer demonstrators or early deliveries to fleet buyers.



Ford's future: the Mondeo has already moved to fourth place in the new car sales league

CHRIS HARRIS



Opening doors: Nikki Arthy, one of the founders of a group launched yesterday to campaign for the ordination of women in the Roman Catholic church. Twelve priests and 50 women have already joined Catholic Women's Ordination (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Ms Arthy, coordinator for the Movement for Faith and Justice Today and former chaplain at St George's hospital medical school in south London, met the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, to discuss the new body. "He was slightly bemused," she said.

Sister Myra Poole, of the Sisters of Notre Dame, said that the group had come about as a direct result of November's vote for the ordination of women by the Anglican General Synod. Many Catholic women wanted to dissociate themselves from the Vatican's comment that the vote was a grave obstacle to unity.

The new organisation held the first of three vigils last night in the piazza outside Westminster Cathedral. A conference is planned later this year. The organisation could take generations to to open the Catholic priesthood to women. It lacks the access to the hierarchy that its Anglican equivalent had.

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Last tango on the back benches?

For many years the whole House of Commons has been haunted by two abiding memories and one abiding horror. The memories are of the two occasions when Mr Geoffrey Dickens MP has danced. The horror is that he might one day dance again.

Dickens (C, Littleborough & Saddleworth) is a big-hearted, eager chap, tireless in the interests of his constituents. But his thoughts go beyond Yorkshire. There can be no controversy in the nation, planet or universe, upon which he does not hold frank and fearless views, expressed daily and in violent language.

But he has few real enemies. He is without malice and personally kind, and there is a lovable naivety about the man. All of at least 18 stone, with the bearing of a master butcher, the opinions of a taxi-driver and the voice of a foghorn, the sight of Mr Dickens's vast countenance rising from the bench like a pink, perspiring moon, mouth open and drawing breath in readiness for a new blast, brings a smile to all but the sourest faces. On the parliamentary sketch-writer's wall is a small box reserved for uneventful days: "*In case of emergency, break glass and reach for Geoffrey Dickens.*" Yesterday was uneventful, except except for Mr Dickens and dancing.

Dickens danced first in 1981. At a press conference he called, journalists awaiting news of his campaign against paedophiles were astonished to be told instead that he was leaving his wife. Attending an afternoon "*thé dansant*" in Soho, he said, he had fallen in love with his dancing partner. By the way, he added, would reporters please not tell his wife until he had told her himself? Mrs Dickens, a wonderful woman, sorted all this out in no time. Soon Geoffrey was home, Soho out of bounds and dancing forbidden.

For a while, Mr Dickens next danced in the mid-80s, this time in circumstances none could censure, though some did deride. The all-girl pop group Bananarama made a video to advertise their music on TV. It featured Geoffrey Dickens.

For some time at Westminster the arrival in the Chamber of the burly MP was accompanied by requests from the floor. But shouts of "give us a twirl, Geoffrey" met only a beaming smile. Perhaps Mrs Dickens had put her foot down again.

Or has she? MPs trembled yesterday as the Yorkshire member bellowed an apparent threat: "the Lambeth Walk!" he announced.

This was a pun, referring both to the music hall dance and to alleged corruption in Labour Lambeth. Attention turned not to Dickens's argument, which was routine, but to the possibility that he might be about to dance, which was horrific. Did we imagine it or did he wiggle his hips teasingly as he spoke? Robin Squire, the studious, bespectacled minister to whom this was addressed, watched, frozen like a rabbit before a puff-adder, as Dickens roared.

Mercifully, he sat down without dancing. The whole House, Squire said, was relieved that Mr Dickens had chosen not to dance. But Dickens hardly seemed to hear. Staring into space he looked transported. But where? To Soho? To Bananarama's studio? To the Yorkshire moors? We shall never know.

Americans try to cut CrossRail costs

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

AN AMERICAN engineering company has been appointed by the transport department to try to cut costs on the £2 billion CrossRail project. It has been given six weeks to advise whether it can save more than £100 million.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, is understood to have made a personal appeal to John Major to save the project from public spending cuts. Sir Wilfrid Newton, chairman of London Transport, had feared that, without CrossRail and other projects, London would be overtaken as a European commercial and financial capital.

Because of Mr MacGregor's plea, the second reading of the CrossRail bill, dropped unexpectedly last month, is to take place in May. However, it will establish only the power to proceed and leaves open the question of funding. Originally it was thought that only a quarter of the money would have to be raised from the private sector.

Now planners fear that the government will be prepared to commit public funds to only 40 per cent of the project.

Although the CrossRail team has spent months preparing its plans, the transport department has appointed the San Francisco-based company Bechtel to see whether costs can be trimmed on the project, which involves tunnelling beneath central London to link Paddington and Liverpool Street stations.

Meanwhile, the future of the £1.8 billion extension to the Jubilee Underground line remains in doubt after the failure of the European Investment Bank to agree on providing funding of up to £100 million. The future of the line has been in doubt because of squabbling between 11 banks that made loans of £600 million to fund the Canary Wharf development. The government is refusing to release £1.4 million for the line until the remaining £400 million is provided by the public sector.

PC murder charge pair forgo evidence

Two Irishmen accused of murdering a special constable who stopped their car in a routine road check called no evidence in their defence yesterday at the Old Bailey. Paul Magee, 42, and Michael O'Brien, 32, both from Belfast, deny murdering PC Glenn Goodman, 37, who was shot dead on a slip road of the A64 near Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, last June, and the attempted murder of three other officers. The prosecution alleges Mr Magee fired twice into Mr Goodman's chest before firing at PC Alexander Kelly, who was hit four times. The court heard that two officers pursuing the two men were fired at with a Kalashnikov rifle. The trial continues today.

Advert licks opposition

An advertisement for ice-cream won top prize at the inaugural National Newspaper Campaign Advertising awards in London last night. The advert of a scantily-clad couple eating from a carton of Häagan-Dazs under the caption "Lose control" was judged the wittiest and most imaginative in the national press in the past year and won the £10,000 first prize for its creators at Bartle Bogle Hegarty agency, beating 1,076 entries. The awards aim to put newspaper advertisement campaigns on the media map.

Manwaring case alibi

The man accused of murdering Alison and Matthew Manwaring was at home on the night they were killed, his sister told the Old Bailey yesterday. Benjamin Laing, 25, is said to have killed Miss Manwaring, 24, and her 62-year-old father on April 23-24 last year after going to their home in east London to buy a car. Diana Laing, 21, a student at Leeds University, said that she saw her brother twice on that night, at midnight and 1am. She denied making up her evidence to protect him. The trial continues today.

Lecturers win payout

Lecturers made redundant when a Manchester teacher training college closed have won a four-year legal battle for government compensation. The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education claims that the 23 staff are owed up to £3.5 million. When De la Salle College closed in 1989, they were denied compensation. An industrial tribunal has ruled that the education secretary was responsible for their loss of employment. The education department is considering an appeal.

South Africa had atom bomb

Continued from page 1

one time. The full cabinet was told only yesterday. Officials declined to disclose the size of the air-delivered bombs, but they are believed to have been similar to that dropped on Hiroshima — the equivalent of 20 kilotons of high explosive.

Technical details were to remain secret, but information would be made available to the International Atomic Energy Agency, which had been told in advance of Mr de Klerk's announcement and which has inspectors in the country at the moment.

David Kidd of the IAEA said from Vienna yesterday that the agency had long been suspicious of a South African weapons programme, but had been unable to find any proof. There had been a hundred inspections of the country's nuclear sites since it signed the non-proliferation treaty in September 1991, but nothing had been turned out. "We knew the precise amount of fissionable material they had had, but we didn't know what they had done with it. We even went to one of the sites in the Kalahari Desert where they had worked on the programme, but we never saw anything."

Mr de Klerk told parliament that the programme had always been intended as a deterrent, but the global political situation had changed dramatically since he became president in 1989. "In these circumstances, a nuclear deterrent had become not only superfluous, but in fact an obstacle to the development of South Africa's international relations."

Unlike Israel, South Africa has never been under any threat of aggression from abroad so deterrence could not be regarded as a valid reason for developing such weapons.

Hanging ruling, page 14

Maastricht faces new threat

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major last night faced a new obstacle to his hopes of ratifying the Maastricht treaty after Tory rebels disclosed that they plan a legal challenge over the social chapter.

The 40-strong Tory Eurosceptics fighting the Maastricht bill have received legal advice contradicting the opinion given to MPs by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary.

As MPs began the 17th day of the bill's committee stage, rebels said that, if vindicated in court, they would plunge ratification into disarray. "If the legal opinion is correct, the government cannot sign the social protocol, which puts the whole ratification of Maastricht in doubt," Bernard Jenkin, MP for Colchester North, said.

Labour unveiled a further obstacle by tabling an amendment to stop the bill becoming law without the social chapter. Labour leaders hope that it will draw the support of Tory rebels believing that Mr Major would sooner ditch the treaty than accept more burdens on British firms.

The rebels' threatened judicial review hinges on another Labour amendment, number 27. Mr Hurd has said that a vote for amendment 27 would not prevent ratification by use of the royal prerogative.

However, Mr Jenkin says that rebels have received "eminent legal opinion" that, because the social protocol allows the spending of public money, ministers could not ignore its deletion from the treaty. Rebels are considering seeking judicial review in the High Court after the bill passes through Parliament but before it has royal assent and ministers ratify the treaty.

Psion Series 3. Quite simply, packs more packs

No other pocket-size computer offers as much dedicated software as the Psion Series 3 - and it's growing all the time.

And, until April 30th, you get a carry case - *absolutely free* - when you buy any of this software or an SSD:

FREE CARRY CASE



Ask store for details

SPREADSHEET £69.95 inc VAT*
The all-purpose business tool, with 3D graphics, formattable styles, and compatible with desk-tops.

SPELL CHECKER & THESAURUS £49.95 inc VAT*
Never be lost for words - 100,000 words, 660,000 synonyms, 50,000 definitions always at your fingertips.

BERLITZ INTERPRETER £69.95 inc VAT
Say it in Europe - translate over 28,000 words between English, French, German, Spanish and Italian.

PERSONAL ACCOUNTS & EXPENSES £49.95 inc VAT
Keeps track of transactions, provides statement breakdowns and charts, handles finances and expenses.

PROFESSIONAL FINANCE £49.95 inc VAT
Analyser and financial problem solver with a wide range of actuarial functions for those in the world of finance.

PSION CHESS £49.95 inc VAT*
For novices or champions with 2D and 3D graphics, 50 classic games, and many game-play features.

GAMES PACK 1 £34.95 inc VAT
Test your skills, eliminate dull moments. Five great games, including a Golf game and Biorhythm analyser.

GAMES PACK 2 £34.95 inc VAT
Try your hand and stretch your brain with these six testing games - perfect for all those spare moments.

*Requires 256k Psion Series 3

Banks for the memory! Extend your memory and keep vital data with Flash or RAM SSDs from 128k to 2mbyte.

Please send me your software brochure, or call 071-258 7368 direct.

Name

Address

T2

SOFTWARE & ACCESSORIES FOR THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL POCKET SIZED COMPUTER

PSION SERIES 3

To: Psion PLC, Alexander House, 85 Frampton Street, London NW8 8NQ. Tel: 071-262 5680. Fax: 071-258 7342

AVAILABLE FROM COMPUTER DEALERS AND RETAILERS, INCLUDING: ALLDERS DUTY FREE AND DEPARTMENT STORES, ARGOS, BENTALLS, BERRYS OF HOLBORN, BOOTS, SELECTED CURRYS SUPERSTORES, DIXONS, FORTE DUTY FREE, HARRODS, JESSOPS PHOTO CENTRES, JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP (JOHN LEWIS LTD, SELFRIDGES), WH. SMITH, WILDING, WALLACE HEATON.

Authority to review safety guidelines

Pupil aged 13 on bail after alleged rape of teacher

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY AND STEWART TENDLER

GOVERNORS at a south London school where a pupil aged 13 is alleged to have raped a teacher are to hold an emergency meeting tomorrow to consider the case.

The incident, in which the boy and a pupil aged 14 allegedly attacked the woman supply teacher, is being treated with "extreme concern", John McTernan, chairman of Southwark education committee, said. He said counselling was being made available to staff, pupils and parents and the authority was reviewing safety guidelines for staff.

Both boys, who have been arrested and bailed, are remaining at home while detectives investigate the case. The woman, who was teaching French and had only recently arrived at the school, is also remaining at home. No papers have been sent to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers, said he was shocked but not surprised. "This is exactly what NASUWT has been warning about for several years," he said.

"Three years ago NASUWT advised its women members not to place themselves in isolated parts of school buildings if at all possible. We had already received information of several cases of threatened sexual assault in circumstances almost identical.

"The government, the local education authority employers, the police and the Crown Prosecution Service have been far too weak in their support for teachers. They are often far too reluctant to advocate the prosecution of alleged offenders."

Scotland Yard said it was alleged the attack took place last Friday at 3.15pm while the teacher was alone in a classroom with the two boys.

Police confirmed that they were dealing with an allegation of rape involving the 13-year-old, not indecent assault. They said that contrary to reports it was not alleged that a weapon had been used.

In law a 13-year-old cannot be charged with rape. A 19th-century law lays down that a child under 14 is not capable of such a serious sexual attack, and he would face a charge of indecent assault. If substantiated, it is believed the case would be the first recorded rape in Britain of a teacher by a pupil.

The headmaster in charge of the tough inner-city school for the past 14 years said press reports had been "wildly inaccurate". He had informed the school's 800 pupils about the incident at assembly yesterday morning after a report appeared on the front page of *The Sun*.

At lunchtime many pupils bought the paper and could be seen poring over it and discussing the report in neighbouring streets. Half the children in the school come from one-parent families and 40 per cent speak a language other than English at home.

Mr McTernan said: "This is a sound and well-run comprehensive school and the alleged incident has caused great distress. Staff safety is one of our primary concerns as an authority. All members of staff are issued with a set of safety guidlines, and special training in dealing with distress or aggression is available."

☐ Boys are growing up earlier, (writes Dr THomas Stuttaford). The first signs of puberty can sometimes be seen as early as ten years of age. The primary and secondary sexual features are often well developed by the age of 13 or 14. It is not at all unusual to see, in medical practice, boys of this age who have regular sex.

Early maturation is encouraged by better feeding with a high protein, high vitamin diet, better heated houses, less infection and less overcrowding, which allow the new generation more sleep, the time when the production of growth hormone is at its peak.

Choirmasters are complaining they no longer have the choir they once had, for the 13-year-old's treble voice has broken before he is mature enough to sing the anthem solo with feeling.

The disappointment of the cathedral precentor is more than matched by the anxiety of teacheis. The increased testosterone levels circulating at an early age result not only in a greater libido, but also aggression, coupled with the enhanced muscle power.

Boy accused, page 1
School violence, page 16

Unions demand legal action over assaults

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION REPORTER

TEACHERS' leaders demanded action yesterday to tackle mounting classroom violence in the wake of the Southwark rape allegation. They said that the case highlighted the growing threat of assault by pupils and parents which the government, local education authorities, police and the Crown Prosecution Service were failing to take seriously.

Most teaching unions believe that the number and severity of attacks is increasing, although there are no national figures recording violence. The Elton report into school discipline in 1989, commissioned by the government, indicated that almost 16,000 teachers faced physical aggression from pupils each week.

The National Association of Schoolmasters / Union of Women Teachers said that it had received several reports of threatened sexual assault on staff and advised women not to work in isolated areas of schools. The union has recently backed teachers bringing three successful private prosecutions against pupils who attacked them. These included a female teacher from southern England who was punched in the face by a 17-year-old former pupil while shopping.

A south London teacher was victim of numerous assaults by two pupils aged 13 and 15. Police said that they were not serious enough to warrant action.



McAvoy: attitudes to pupils have changed

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said the fact that teachers were feeling the need to change their relationship with pupils was "a sad reflection on the way society is going".

The traditional relationship between teacher and pupil is unlikely to survive the Southwark rape case. The impact of the Children Act is already bringing a reassessment.

The six teaching unions are joining to draw up a code of conduct to protect members from children making malicious allegations to deflect attention from their misdemeanours. A growing number of teachers have been suspended after allegations arising from breaking up playground fights or turning out children who push into the dinner queue. Many have spent months suspended before being cleared.



TONY MAXWELL

Sign of anger: thousands queued in Dublin yesterday to add their name to books of condolences that will be sent to the Mayor of Warrington

Family face life or death decision on IRA victim

BY RONALD FAUX

DOCTORS will decide today whether to turn off the life support system keeping alive Timothy Parry, the 12-year-old who suffered head injuries in the Warrington bombing. He has not responded to treatment and cannot breathe without the ventilator.

Other casualties of the IRA's attacks, and the people caring for them, were visited yesterday at Warrington General Hospital by the Prince of Wales. Arfan Saleh, the hospital's clinical director, said: "It was an enormous boost to morale because the staff are very tired now."

Timothy was transferred to the neurosurgery centre at Walton, Liverpool, on Monday after he showed signs of struggling to breathe and of movements in his legs. This gave his parents, Colin and Wendy Parry of Great Sankey, Warrington, hope that he might survive.

John Miles, senior consultant neurosurgeon, said: "They are now having to take another depressing downturn in their expectations. There is no doubt that no one would want to keep the machinery going if there was no hope for survival."

Prince Charles was very impressed by Warrington hospital's efforts in the wake of the bombings. Barry Taylor, a consultant surgeon, told the prince that the first victim was in the operating theatre within 40 minutes of the explosions. "The response from the medical, nursing and ancillary staff was out of this world," he said.

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, also visited Warrington yesterday. He gave an assurance that the government was determined to protect the public from terrorist attack, and to bring a sense of security back to the shocked town as quickly as possible.

Dublin mourns, page 1
Leading article, page 19

Judges rule parents of injured foetus can sue

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE parents of a baby who died from injuries sustained in the womb yesterday won the right to sue a health authority for damages.

In a decision which strengthens the status of the unborn child, three judges in the Court of Appeal in Scotland overturned an earlier decision by Lord Prosser, a judge in the Court of Session, that relatives could sue only for injuries to a living person, which did not include a foetus.

Lord McCluskey said that it was common to refer to a child in a woman as he, she, him or her. He did not believe Parliament envisaged that a "person" who sustained injuries meant someone "enjoying a legal personality".

Lord Caplan agreed: "A parent who loses a young infant will experience the same sense of loss irrespective of whether the injuries causing death originated shortly before birth or shortly after."

The three judges said that Mrs Audrey Hamilton, 35, of Kirkcaldy, Fife, can proceed with her claim for damages following the death of her son David after birth in 1976. She and the child's father, John Watson, of Crail, Fife, who claim that his death was caused by forceps damage before birth, are suing Fife Health Board for £20,000. The board denies liability.

Minister backs school condoms

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

A JUNIOR health minister said yesterday that giving free condoms in schools to sixth-formers would be a positive step.

The idea was put to Tom Sackville in a BBC radio interview after the launch of a government campaign to reduce Britain's teenage pregnancy rate, which is the highest in Europe. Mr Sackville, MP for Bolton West, said: "As long as it does not contravene the law, and as long as it is done sensitively and with the full consent of the parent-teacher associations, governors, etc, then I would have to say that it would be a positive step."

His comments were seized upon by Tory MPs and pro-family lobby groups. Harry Greenway, Tory MP for Ealing North and a former teacher, said: "The next thing will be condom machines in school halls for children of all ages and what a disaster that would be."

Mr Sackville later emphasised that supplying condoms to the over-16s would be a matter for individual schools. "What I'm more interested in is effective contraceptive advice rather than just a packet of three," he said.

Canoeists fought to save each other

BY JOHN YOUNG AND JOHN VINCENT

FIVE survivors of the Dorset canoe accident in which four teenagers died on Monday were released from Weymouth and District hospital yesterday. There were emotional scenes as Joanna Willis, 16, and Marie Rendle, 17, hugged the staff nurse who had cared for them.

Karen Gardner, 21, and Anthony Mann, 23, the two instructors from the St Albans Adventure Centre, were also released and slipped away from the hospital quietly. Norman Pointer, 49, a teacher from Southway comprehensive school in Plymouth who had been with the group, left later.

Emma Hartley, 16, who had been in intensive care, and Samantha Stansby, who had a chest infection, were detained.

The first to leave hospital yesterday was Miss Willis. She was helped into her parents' car by a staff nurse, who hugged the girl several times as she said goodbye. Miss Rendle, clearly upset, followed her, clutching cuddly toys and holding her sister's hand. A scar caused by the wetsuit she had been wearing was visible on her neck.

Dorset police confirmed their investigation into the accident would look into whether there were any grounds for criminal proceedings. In a statement, Tony Pointer, deputy chief constable, said the enquiry would assess all aspects of the incident.

Four Southway students died of hypothermia after their kyaks capsized about two miles offshore during a trip from Lyme Regis to Charmouth in Dorset. The teenagers were described yesterday as close friends who had died trying to save each other.

June Mowforth, acting head of Southway comprehensive school, where the children were pupils, spoke of each in turn with affection. Rachel Walker, 16, had been a talented, lively girl, very supportive of all her friends. Claire Langley, 16, was "a lovely girl, very talented academically". She suffered from rheumatism and had to take special care that she always kept warm.

Simon Dunne, 16, was a helpful, sincere young man well liked by all his friends. Dean Sayer, 17, was "a bit of a character, a bit cheeky perhaps", and had been a promising footballer.

"All four students were very close, both within the school and socially as well," Mrs Mowforth said. She said the main concern of their parents appeared to be that their children had not died alone. "I understand that they were all together and that they tried to revive each other as well," Mrs Mowforth said.

Carrying a large pile of letters and other messages of sympathy, she said the support she had received had been "absolutely wonderful. We are being inundated with understanding and sympathy".

In yesterday's bright sunshine, a large group of pupils stood in uncharacteristic near-silence, some of them inspecting the mounting piles of flowers that had been laid on the school's main steps. The atmosphere inside the school was extremely sad and tearful, Mrs Mowforth said.

Many of the staff were also shocked, and counselling would be important for them. She said there had been many offers from other teachers in the city to help with staffing.

Some of the 15 other children who had been on the adventure training course, but not on the canoeing exercise, were already back at school, she said.

Mrs Mowforth said she had spoken to the three of the girls who had survived, who spoke of their instructors as heroes. They had all worked very hard to save each other. "We nearly made it," one of the girls said. Asked whether she would let students go again on a similar trip she replied: "Yes, when the time is ripe."

Devon County Council said yesterday that the students had all been covered by the usual type of holiday insurance. As the local education authority, the council also carried insurance to cover its liability for children in the care of schools. Whether or not any of the parents chose to take legal action was likely to depend on the outcome of the two inquiries at present being conducted by the council and by the police.



Family care: Marie Rendle, right, with her sister

Parkiflex Parawood Sealed Parquet Flooring
Pack of three double panels, each 18¾in x 18¾in approx
Total coverage 7·35 sq ft
£11·45 £7·95
SAVE £3·50

Pavisolo Ceramic Floor Tiles
Pack of four, 12in x 12in
• Frost proof for use in and outdoors
• Choice of colours
£8·99 £5·99
SAVE £3·00

At Homebase, our prices have gone through the floor.

SAVE £2·00
Armstrong Classic Vinyl Tiles
Pack of eight, 12in x 12in
• Self adhesive
• Easy to clean, ideal for kitchens
• Choice of designs
£6·19 £4·19

SAVE £18·00
Heuga Elégance Carpet Tiles
Pack of twelve, 19¾in x 19¾in
• High quality • Easy to lay
• Choice of colours
£59·99 £41·99

SAINSBURY'S HOMEBASE
HOUSE AND GARDEN CENTRES

Good ideas cost less at Homebase.

All sizes are approximate and not to scale. Merchandise subject to availability.

Adoption charity says smokers less suitable as parents

BY LOUISE HIDALGO

ADOPTION agencies were advised yesterday to try not to place children under the age of two with couples who smoke. The advice, from the country's largest adoption charity, drew immediate criticism from Tim Yeo, the health minister, who said adoption was no place for "dogma or ideology".

The British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, an umbrella body for 180 of the country's fostering and adoption agencies, has urged its members in a guidance note to give preference to non-smoking couples where possible when placing under-twos for adoption or fostering.

"If there is a choice between a smoking and a non-smoking family, it is hard to justify the extra risk of placing a child with the one that smokes," said Christine Hammond, BAAF's director.

The number of children available for adoption has fallen dramatically in the past 20 years, and babies are in particularly strong demand. BAAF estimates that for every baby, there are between five and ten would-be adopters.

Ms Hammond said the advice was not intended as a blanket ban and there would be instances where couples who smoked would make more suitable prospective parents than those who did not. However, research showed that children under two were particularly vulnerable to the effects. The risk of cot death, for example, trebled where the mother smoked more than ten a day.

"What we are saying is that agencies must consider whether the extra risk of placing the child in a family where there are smokers is justified."

The health department was swift to distance itself. Mr Yeo, who is overseeing the first review in adoption law for 20 years, urged that each case be judged on its merits "using common sense and compassion". It would be "quite wrong for a child to be denied the chance of a loving home solely because there is a smoker in the household" and that the government was against any blanket exclusion from adoption on grounds of age or lifestyle.

Mr Yeo added, however, that "the overall health of prospective adopters and the possible influence on the lifestyle or the health of the child" should be one factor among many when deciding on whether couples were suitable.

A handful of local authorities, the main adoption agencies, have already imposed restrictions on smokers who seek to adopt, according to BAAF, which said the guidelines were intended to clarify an area of confusion among its members.



Yeo: "no place for dogma in adoption"

The government's report on adoption law is due in the next few months. It is believed the report may take the form of new legislation and is likely to accept most of the 47 recommendations of a working-party study published last autumn. These included a proposal that couples seeking to adopt should be charged a fee.

☐ An employee of Ladbrokes, the bookmaker, is claiming unfair dismissal at a Birmingham industrial tribunal after being sacked for smoking at work.

Pauline Wright, 40, who worked in the firm's Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, branch for nine years, was discovered by a district supervisor smoking behind the counter in view of customers, and was sacked following a disciplinary hearing.

The industrial tribunal hearing heard that Ladbrokes brought in a staff no-smoking policy two years ago to "aim for a cleaner shop environment". The hearing continues.

☐ Tea, coffee, sugar and alcohol are "social poisons" which should pose as many health fears as cigarettes, a health advice group claimed yesterday.

The warning from the Women's Nutritional Advisory Service followed an experiment in which a doctor switched to a diet including the average adult consumption of the country's favourite drinks, plus cigarettes and found that, in six weeks, he suffered from headaches, nausea, loss of libido, and physical and mental fatigue.



PHIL COBURN

Red hot sales: Mark Garner, of Continental Television, outside court yesterday. Publicity has boosted sales

Porn channel wins right to contest ban

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

RED Hot Television won the go-ahead in the High Court yesterday to challenge the government's plans to outlaw the pornographic satellite channel in Britain by banning sales of decoders for films beamed from Denmark.

In what will be a test of the government's powers to restrict reception of programmes transmitted by satellite from other European Community countries, Mr Justice Macpherson agreed there was an "arguable case" for judicial review of the government's proposals. He said during the hearing that it seemed to be a "bit bleak that if we want to, we cannot stop pornography coming into this country". He ordered that the case should be heard as a matter of urgency.

Later, Mark Garner, executive consultant of Continental Television, Red Hot's parent company, said he was delighted that the challenge would go ahead. He was also happy with the boost to the sales of decoders brought about by the publicity given to the case. He said that sales had risen from 25,000 on Friday to more than 28,000 by Monday night as people tried to beat the proposed ban, which would not apply to anyone already owning a decoder.

"It is legal in the UK to watch acts of murder on television, which is an illegal act, but at the moment it is illegal to watch sex, which is a gift given by God to us for our enjoyment. I think that is pretty stupid," he said.

David Pannick QC, for Continental, told the judge that the case raised a matter of public importance concerning the powers of a secretary of state to restrict reception of satellite programmes that had been transmitted from other EC states.

Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, decided to proscribe Red Hot because of the pornographic nature of its programmes, and to make it a criminal offence to sell decoders or to carry out other acts by way of support for such programmes, such as advertising their times and details. Mr Pannick said he would argue at the full hearing that Mr Brooke had no power under EC law to take such action.

The government was claiming it was entitled to intervene under an EC directive which allowed it to impose restrictions on "re-transmissions" of broadcasts from other states. Mr Pannick said that there was no re-transmission of Red Hot programmes, even though they went through decoders.

He said that those who had drafted the relevent EC directive in 1989 had thought that there should be freedom of reception throughout the EC. "One should rely upon the state from which the signal emanates to exercise appropriate controls."

Yard chief fears police let suspects go to avoid paperwork

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A CREAKING criminal justice system, bad legislation and unfair criticism has left police feeling under siege, Paul Condon, the new commissioner of the Metropolitan police, told MPs yesterday.

He had a gut feeling that officers faced so much paperwork when they arrested suspects that they were increasingly letting them go with a warning or caution.

He told the select committee on home affairs: "It cannot be right for valuable police resources to be tied up with paperwork when they should be out on the streets. Even basic arrests take several hours to process."

Mr Condon joined the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, in criticising the new Criminal Justice Act, which stops courts from taking into account previous convictions when sentencing. The act, designed to reduce prison populations, "has not worked. It is not in the public interest." The unit fine system had also produced some bizarre cases.

Mr Condon said the criminal justice system was "beginning to look a bit jaded". No solutions had been found to the problems of professional criminals who manipulated the system and persistent young offenders who wreaked havoc on communities. This had reached a critical point.

The royal commission on criminal justice had to deal with abuses of the right to silence and "ludicrous rules" on disclosing material to defences. The system was heavily tilted towards the professional criminal.

Judges were increasingly ordering acquittals because they had not kept pace with policing developments. Officers were now taught not to collude. Courts had yet to realise that differences between officers on details was a sign not of lying but of honesty.

Mr Condon welcomed reforms announced on Thursday by Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, which include changing police authorities, creating an authority for London and changes in funding.

He said that notified crime in London rose last year by 2 per cent, one of the smallest increases for many years. There were already signs of success this year, with a 4 per cent reduction in January and February compared with the same months last year.

☐ The chairman of the Police Federation, Alan Eastwood, said that officers were likely to be armed in little more than five years. He told the Northumbria Police Federation in Gateshead: "We cannot tolerate 50 police officers being attacked every day and some being murdered because young yobs carry knives.

"I believe it will happen, and within closer to five years than ten. If Parliament won't protect the protectors of society, the call for arms will be irresistible." He urged repeal of the Criminal Justice Act, which "has brought the system into disrepute".

Letters, page 19

Barclays launches computer detective to stem card losses

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

CREDIT card users who change their spending habits and suddenly splash out on several expensive purchases may find themselves detained by shop assistants and arrested.

Barclays Bank yesterday unveiled Fraud 2000, a computer system designed to detect credit card criminals on the basis of unusual spending patterns. The £2 million system, which begins operating in April, uses artificial intelligence to decide whether a card is being used illegally.

Details of the type and size of transactions typically made by credit card fraudsters are programmed into the Fraud 2000 computer. If purchases appear suspicious, the system compares the spending pattern with that of the genuine card holder.

Barry Fergus, project director of fraud control at Barclays, said that unlike previous systems, Fraud 2000 aimed to catch offenders at the point of sale. He said the system, which will operate world-wide, may ignore a one-off purchase of expensive jewellery even though it may be suspicious. But if the card is being used on the same day to buy rings, fancy goods and drink "it will scream out". Barclaycard's fraud referral unit will then advise the assistant to reject the purchase.

Last year, about two million credit cards were lost or stolen in Britain with 210,000 used illegally, often to buy portable, expensive items, and card fraud cost the banking industry £165 million. World-wide losses on Visa and Mastercard are now running at more than £650 million.

Barclays hopes to identify about 20 fraudsters a day and save £4 million a year. The system takes about a fifth of a second to approve a card and about 90 seconds to screen a suspicious transaction.

Parents at prime minister's local school reject opting out

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS at John Major's local comprehensive school have rejected the government's campaign to encourage schools to opt out.

The governors of Hinchingbrooke School in Huntingdon, once chaired by Baroness Blatch, the education minister, agreed to a ballot on opting out of the control of Cambridgeshire education authority after almost 400 parents petitioned them. More than two-thirds of the parents took part in the ballot, and when the vote was taken 60 per cent rejected opting out.

Although the prime minister sent his children to a private school, Lady Blatch's three children attended Hinchingbrooke; she has described the former grammar as a model state school. She said yesterday: "We live in a free society and parents, having considered the issues, have made a democratic decision. Our policy is one of choice and diversity, and we are not in the business of imposing grant-maintained status on schools that do not want it."

Peter Downes, the head teacher, who supported opting out despite earlier reservations, said the rejection would mean bigger classes, fewer books and a reduction in hours for some of the 107 staff. Mr Downes estimated that grant-maintained status would have provided an extra £70,000. The school's budget will now be cut by £100,000 next year and he is considering an appeal to parents to raise more money.

"I don't like the government's education policy," Mr Downes said. "But you have to ask yourself whether you go on fighting the system or whether you use it as best you can. I regret it very much because it will affect the lives of the children, and they are why we are all here." Hinchingbrooke teaches more than 1,700 pupils.

Parents at Mr Major's old school, Rutlish High School, in Merton, south London, also voted not to opt out in a ballot held last year.

Ministers remain confident that they will meet their target of 1,500 grant-maintained schools by April 1994. More than 500 have been approved out of 776 where parents have voted to opt out. Hinchingbrooke brings the number voting to remain in local authority control to 211.

Proposal for sex shop splits village

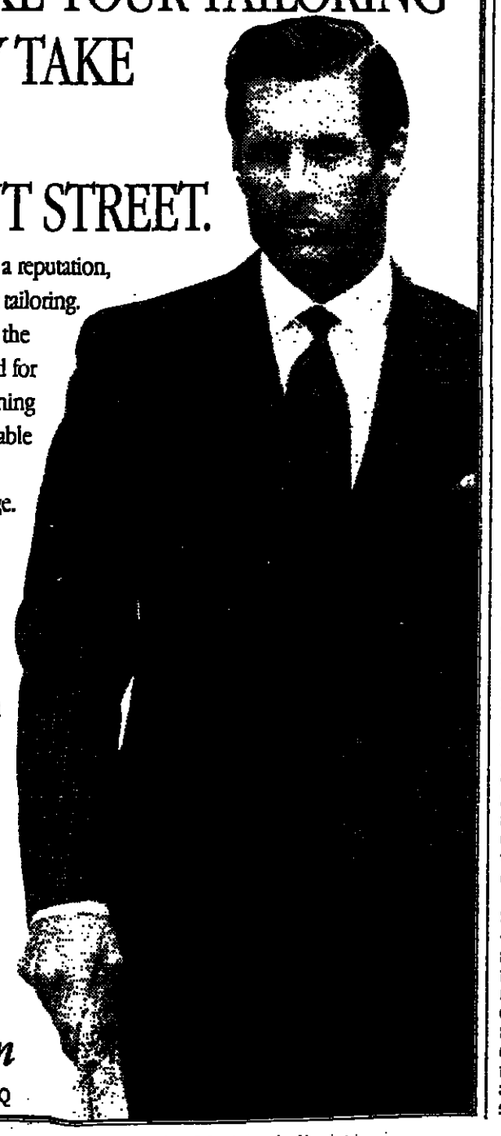
BY IAN MURRAY

A BUSINESSMAN is to open a sex shop in a tiny Welsh village after being refused permission to sell fish and chips. Jeff Keen, who runs a marine centre and shop in Aberkenfig, Mid Glamorgan, aims to start his new enterprise next week.

"They wouldn't give me permission to open a chip shop, but there are no regulations that can stop me opening an adult shop with a small section devoted to what they call sexually orientated goods," he said yesterday.

More than 2,000 people have signed a petition demanding that Ogwr borough council, Bridgend, stops the shop from opening. Win Griffiths, Labour MP for Bridgend, said: "I thought this was just a joke at first but, if it opens, it isn't funny."

IF YOU TAKE YOUR TAILORING SERIOUSLY TAKE A TRIP TO 100 REGENT STREET.



At Aquascutum, we've built a reputation, over 140 years for the finest tailoring. We're moving forward into the 90s with new ranges created for todays executives. Still retaining the commitment to impeccable classic tailoring but with a distinctly contemporary edge. See our new collection of suits in pure wool and cashmere with luxury accessories, silk ties and 100% cotton shirts. Relax in *The Seasons Café* – our latest addition, where you can meet friends for morning coffee, a light lunch or afternoon tea.
For our free brochure call 0800 282922

Aquascutum OF LONDON
100 Regent Street, London W1A 2AQ

Mammoth theory challenged

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE woolly mammoth was roaming the earth much more recently than scientists believe, according to the latest Russian research.

Until now it had been thought that mammoths became extinct 10,000 years ago, but radiocarbon dating of teeth from mammoths dug up on Wrangel Island in the Arctic Ocean shows that they may have still been around in 2,000 BC, when Egypt was ruled by the pharaohs.

The latest findings, from Dr Andrei Sher of the Severtsov Institute in Moscow, are "one of the most extraordinary fossil finds in recent years", according to Dr Adrian Lister of University College London, who compares them to the discovery of the coelacanth.

In *Nature*, Dr Sher reports that the teeth are between 4,010 and 7,250 years old and are significantly smaller than those of other mammoths. This suggests that the creatures were "dwarf mammoths", perhaps 6ft tall and only two tons. The typical mammoth weighed six tons and was at least 10ft tall at the shoulders.

North Sea birds thrive despite oil spills

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 100,000 seabirds are killed every year by unreported oil pollution in the North Sea, according to a survey. This compares with the death of only about 1,600 birds around Shetland as a result of the huge oil spill from the *Braer* in January.

In spite of this heavy toll, the seabird population is at its highest because most species have benefited from overfishing, the report by the World Wide Fund for Nature says.

"Over-fishing has depleted fish stocks but helped scavenging seabirds by increasing their food supply," Alja Schmidt-van Dorp, the group's North Sea officer, said. "Action is needed to stop over-fishing but must be done gradually to avoid hurting seabirds."

The WWF estimates that about 82,000 tonnes of oil, close to the *Braer's* cargo, is released routinely into the North Sea every year. About 60,000 tonnes is discharged, mostly illegally, by oil tankers; 19,000 tonnes by offshore oil and gas platforms and 3,000 tonnes by oil refineries.

Kees Camphuijsen, who co-ordinates monitoring of polluted birds, said: "About 90 per cent of birds that wash up on the shores of Belgium, Holland, Germany, northern France and southern England have been killed by oil. In the Dutch sector of the North Sea alone, up to 10,000 oil slicks, ranging from a few metres to up to 200 kilometres long, are spotted by satellite each year."



Bird food: other species might prey on puffins

Over-fishing has helped seabirds to flourish because huge amounts of unwanted fish and offal are discarded by trawlers. Most fish are gutted on board, and up to 40 per cent of fish caught are thrown back into the sea dead because they are smaller than the legal landing size or the vessel has exceeded its catch quota.

"We estimate that between one and two million seabirds are now dependent on this supply of discarded fish and offal," Bob Furness, a zoologist at Glasgow University who compiled the report, said.

The WWF fears that if this supply were suddenly withdrawn or reduced, scavengers would begin to prey on smaller seabirds such as puffins and kittiwakes. Also, they might be driven to feed on rubbish dumps and sewage, becoming carriers of bacteria.

Some species of seabirds may be in decline, however, because of heavy fishing of sandeels, mainly by Danish vessels, for processing into oil and pig and poultry feed. Sandeels are a primary food source for guillemots and kittiwakes, numbers of which have fallen in the past ten years.

Dr Furness said: "There is little scientific evidence about the state of sandeel stocks, but as a precaution it would be sensible to set a limit on such industrial fishing, which is completely uncontrolled at present. This could help the recovery of stocks of cod and haddock, which also feed on sandeel."

☐ *An assessment of human hazards to seabirds in the North Sea*, by the World Wide Fund for Nature (free from Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XR)

Publication of heritage committee's half-way house to Calcutt is damned by newspaper industry

MPs weigh right to know against right to privacy

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

■ **An all-party Commons group believes that it has devised a formula that offers the best chance of balance in a society dedicated to controversy and debate**

A BLUEPRINT for regulating the press, balancing protection for victims of harassment with more freedom of information, was handed to Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, yesterday.

After a five-month enquiry, the Commons heritage committee published an alternative to the statutory regime recommended in Sir David Calcutt's review of the press.

The MPs want a press ombudsman, empowered to impose fines, demand corrections and compensation from offending newspapers; a complaints hotline; a protection of privacy bill; a privacy zone for those staked out by the press in big news stories; and other legal changes.

Mr Brooke has indicated that he was waiting for the committee's report before deciding his response to Sir David's report. Labour's Gerald Kaufman, the committee chairman, said the report offered the heritage secretary a sensible, more workable regime. It recommends tougher controls than those of the self-regulatory Press Complaints Commission but stops short of the statutory body called for in the Calcutt review.

The MPs said that Sir David's recommendations would imprison the press in a cage of legal restraint. A free society required the freedom to say or print things inconvenient to those in authority, whether members of the royal family, politicians or officials. "While continual antagonism between the press and persons in authority is unnecessary, critical tension between them is an essential ingredient of a democratic society and far preferable to collusion between the press and public figures."

The report recommended extending the public's access to information as soon as possible. There also had to be a right to privacy, which should not be exploited. "Freedom to say and print whatever we like does not, of course, mean that we must all necessarily avail ourselves of unbridled licence to say or write whatever comes into our heads, regardless of the offence it may give to fellow citizens."

The cross-party committee had been concerned by the distress caused to the "ordinary citizen" propelled into news stories and distressed by thoughtless or malicious reporting.

It had taken evidence from widows of soldiers killed in Northern Ireland, the Ealing vicarage rape victim Jill Saward, and others. Support and guidance, as often given when a police officer or soldier was killed, should be offered to other victims and their relatives.

The royal family, politicians and other public figures could not expect an identical right to privacy, but the MPs tried to draw a line. "While the committee believes that the public does have the right to know that the Chancellor of the Exchequer [Norman Lamont] had legal advice partly financed by the taxpayers, it does not believe that the public has the right to know details of the Chancellor's credit card transactions."

The report added: "While it is a matter for argument whether the public has the right to know that a member of the royal family or a cabinet minister is involved in an adulterous affair, the committee does not believe that the public has the right to know the contents of such a person's intimate conversations or the details of his or her sexual activity."

The committee did not claim that its formula would solve all the problems but believed it offered the "best chance possible" to create the kind of balance that should be achieved in a society that fostered controversy and debate.



Brooke: holding fire on Calcutt report

The main recommendations are:

☐ Statutory press ombudsman: possibly a retired judge appointed by the Lord Chancellor, modelled on system in other industries. One of his first duties should be to examine a proprietor's responsibilities for newspapers he controls. The publicly-funded ombudsman would investigate complaints about newspaper stories and he could supervise the wording and prominence of corrections and publish adjudications.

He could order compensation to be paid and if a newspaper persistently breached the code of practice, he could fine it without jeopardising possible legal proceedings. If a newspaper refused to pay up, the ombudsman could seek a court order.

☐ Protection of privacy bill: a two-part bill introducing civil offences such as infringement of privacy and criminal sanctions against invasive technology and harassment.

Infringement of privacy includes: handling harmful or embarrassing personal material; handling private information, such as medical records, without permission; publishing inaccurate or misleading person information; and violating an individual's privacy by persistent intrusions, such as repeated telephone calls or staking out his or her home. As a defence, newspapers could claim that they were acting in the public interest.

The bill would create criminal offences, similar to those recommended by the Calcutt review, for bugging; taking photographs or recordings on private property without permission; publishing intimate material belonging to an individual without consent; entering private property with intent to obtain personal information; dealing with or handling material obtained through dubious means, such as long-range cameras; and the deliberate interception of mobile-telephone calls.

☐ The Press Commission would replace the Press Complaints Commission. It would be charged with upholding press freedom and maintaining ethical standards.

The new body should be well-publicised and operate a hotline, as recommended by the original Calcutt review, to channel initial complaints to editors.

In contrast to the present commission, the committee wants the new one to handle complaints from those offended but not directly involved in stories.

Regular research and surveys of public attitudes to the press, the working of the revised code of practice, and freedom of the press, should be carried out. The commission could also draw up guiding principles.

The duties of the commission and ombudsman would overlap in some areas as the commission, as envisaged by the committee, could also demand corrections, fines and apologies and order compensation for breaches of the code.

The code of practice should lie at the heart of all reporting, forming part of every journalist's contract of employment.

☐ Other legal changes: the government to consider strict controls on the sale of surveillance equipment. Legal aid to extend to defamation.

■ *Privacy and Media Intrusion*, Commons national heritage committee 4th report (Stationery Office; £12.15)

Ombudsman call, page 1
Pat Chapman, page 18
Leading article, page 19

MURRAY JOB



Press gang: MPs want to legislate against what they see as unwarranted media intrusion into the lives of the rich and famous

Editors criticise new 'busybody's charter'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

NEWSPAPER editors have strongly criticised proposals to regulate the press contained in the report on privacy and media intrusion by the cross-party national heritage select committee.

Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, described the report as a "busybody's charter", while *The Sun* dismissed the recommendation for a telephone hot line to allow the initiation of third party complaints about the press as "a complete waste of time".

Lord McGregor, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, said the committee's recommendation for a self-policing Press Commission as well as a statutory regulator was "a great muddle" and an "administrative impossibility".

Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian*, welcomed the committee's stress on voluntary regulation but felt it was unnecessary to create an additional level of interference with a statutory ombudsman.

"I think the committee has thrown everything but the kitchen sink at this. It is a case of belt and braces — every idea of the last year is there somewhere in bewildering confusion."

Mr Preston described the recommendation that all editors and journalists be contractually obliged to follow a new Press Commission's code of practice and the requirement all journalists show a copy of the code to everyone they sought to interview or photograph, as "impractical" and a possible curtailment to investigative journalism.

MPs made 43 recommendations after a five-month enquiry during which they listened to the views of editors and people who claimed to be victims of press intrusion. They visited Washington DC and New York City to examine similar practices in the US. Their enquiry followed a series of well-publicised stories last year about alleged media intrusion.

Launching the report yesterday, Labour's Gerald Kaufman, the committee's chairman, said the reforms should

> **'The committee has thrown everything but the kitchen sink at this'**
> *Peter Preston, The Guardian*

be part of a package of legislative measures which should also include "effective action to extend the public's right of access to information".

He said the reforms should coincide with the introduction of a protection of privacy bill, arguing that all individuals were entitled to "a zone of privacy" in their lives. Mr Kaufman conceded, however, that leading public figures could not expect the same right to privacy as other people.

The National Union of Journalists welcomed these proposals. Jake Ecclestone, the deputy general secretary, said: "This measure will restrain editors from putting pressure on their reporters to behave unethically."

Chris Davis, assistant editor of *The Sun*, said there were already far too many laws restricting the press. "MPs are trying to threaten us with a big stick," he said.

Andreas Whittam Smith, editor of *The Independent*, said he did not believe a law on privacy could be successfully implemented, even if it allowed exceptions for cases of investigative reporting judged to be in the public interest. "I cannot think of a single case where a judge and jury have ever upheld the concept of public interest," he said.

Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, former chairman of the Press Council, welcomed the report as "imaginative", but warned against giving an ombudsman statutory powers. "A good complaints system is simple and quick. Once you start involving lawyers it becomes very burdensome."

> **'This is a busybodies' charter, drawn up for busybodies'**
> *Andrew Neil, Sunday Times*

He said there was no need to give a press ombudsman, appointed by the Lord Chancellor, executive powers. "Similar existing watchdogs for Parliament, the health service and local government, manage to be effective without statutory powers of enforcement," he said.

Lord McGregor, speaking on behalf of the Press Complaints Commission, criticised the report's recommendation that the PCC should be replaced by a voluntary Press Commission with increased powers, including the right to impose fines on newspapers breaching the journalists' code of practice.

He described as "unacceptable" the committee's idea of installing a majority of lay members from outside the newspaper industry on a new commission, with powers to require the payment of compensation and to demand the publication of corrections.

"This would effectively give the new regulatory body the right to tell editors what to write in their papers and where they should put it," he said.

SNP censures revival of 'tartan terrorism'

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Scottish National Party has dissociated itself from a spate of letter bombs allegedly sent by extremists protesting against the privatisation of Scotland's water.

A series of small devices received in England and Scotland has revived memories of "tartan terrorism" that flared briefly in the 1970s in Scotland.

Andrew Welsh, the SNP's spokesman on water, said: "I unequivocally and totally condemn any acts of violence in pursuit of political aims. No cause on earth can justify the risk of maiming or hurting individuals and such obscenities have no place in politics." He explained that earlier reports in which a reply giving a general definition of sabotage as "everything from turning a tap off to blowing up a pipe" had been quoted out of context.

The message, however, may not be getting through to all of those opposed to water privatisation. On Tuesday a letter bomb was opened by an 18-year-old woman at the headquarters of Anglian Water, in the prime minister's constituency of Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. It had a Scottish postmark and a hand-stencilled address. Last week a peaceful demonstration was held outside the building by eight members of the SNP's Inverness branch.

They were demanding to see a confidential document which they claimed had been written by the company to the Scottish Office, expressing interest in the privitisation of Scottish water.

A similar letter bomb was sent to Dounreay nuclear plant in Caithness on Tuesday and on Monday one was received by the Scottish Office in Edinburgh. It was addressed to Water Privatisation Board.

Nobody was hurt by the devices, although police said they were capable of causing injury. Officers in Cambridgeshire are co-operating with Scottish police on the investigation.

In 1980 seven men were jailed for between six and ten years in the so-called tartan army terrorism trial. The judge at the hearing in Glasgow said they were guilty of conspiring to further the aims of the Scottish Republican Socialist League and were prepared to "kill and maim innumerable innocent people".

For sale: frigate, one owner, suit 3rd world

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE government's second-hand arms salesmen run their expanding multi-million-pound business from a seedy office block south of the Thames. They have glossy brochures on the latest surplus weapon systems for customers who cannot afford new ones.

One of the civil servants, whose department's efforts were highlighted by a National Audit Office report on Tuesday, said that he was negotiating the sale of six Type 21 frigates. He spends his time marketing used ships, aircraft, tanks and artillery pieces around the world.

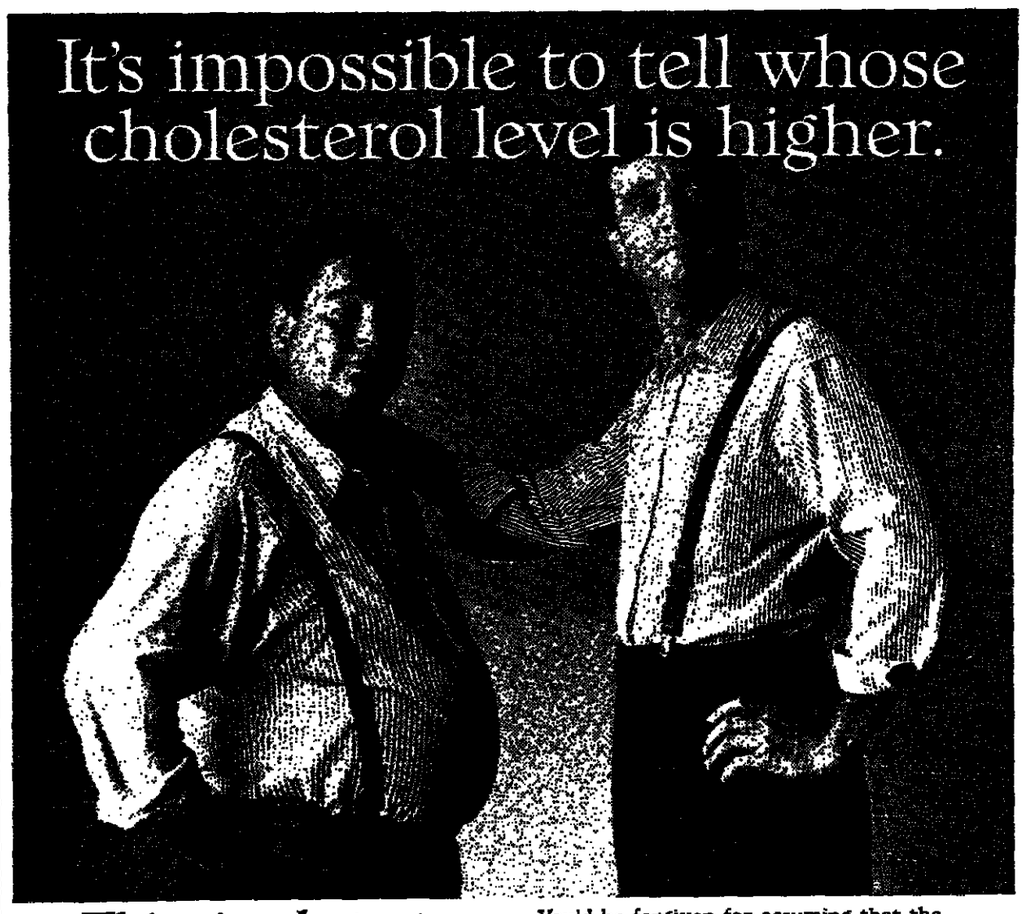
The frigates are in a brochure called *Surplus Royal Navy Ships*. The Amazon class ships have had one owner, are "simple to maintain and economical to man". The official said: "The reputation of Royal Navy ships is so good, they are easier to sell than aircraft or tanks."

For all the major equipment, the biggest effort is made in selling the weapons for operational use. According to the official, a frigate bound for a foreign navy goes for several million pounds. If it is sold for scrap, "you only get a few thousand". Could a customer get a better deal by buying in bulk? "We'll talk about it," he said.

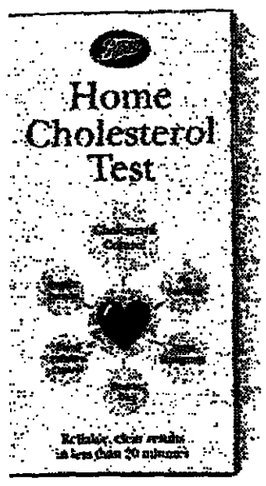
The defence ministry's directorate of sales (disposals) employs 55 civil servants who use defence attachés and private British companies to promote used fighter planes and warships. The National Audit Office had a few criticisms, but their expertise has been sought by the Russians, who have huge stocks of unwanted weapons, and even by the Americans, who corner the second-hand arms market.

The directorate has high hopes of selling off more Leander class frigates, which are already in service in countries such as Chile and Pakistan. Two frigates have recently been sold to Ecuador. Tanks and aircraft are not regarded as such hot properties. Greece showed interest in buying some of the RAF's redundant Phantoms but called off a possible deal.

A second sales brochure offers potential customers Chieftain and Centurion tanks and a variety of artillery pieces. "Old tanks are difficult to sell," the official said. "A Chieftain can go for only about £500 for scrap but if we can sell them for use, we can get several thousand pounds."



This simple test will tell you yours.



You'd be forgiven for assuming that the slimmer, fitter-looking man on the right has a lower cholesterol level.

The fact is you can't tell by looking and the only way to know for sure is to have a simple blood test.

You can either make an appointment with your doctor. Or now you can do it yourself with the new Boots Home Cholesterol Test.

With the kit comes a 'Caring for your Heart' leaflet which puts the results of your Cholesterol test into context.

The instruction leaflet has a Freephone Helpline to give you more information if required.

It only takes 20 minutes, it's easy to use and importantly it's the most accurate home cholesterol test you can buy.

Boots

Tory praise for Carey's attack on materialism

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, yesterday condemned the pursuit of money and material consumption as measures of success. The individualisation of belief and morality was "a public disaster of gigantic proportions", he said.

In an address to community leaders at Formby, in the Church of England's Liverpool diocese, Dr Carey criticised the government's Urban Programme, calling for a "more sustained and secure" contribution to the inner cities. "Funding regimes have been chopped and changed. Programmes have been mounted and scrapped," he said.

The address was welcomed by senior Conservatives and could mark a turning point in relations between church and state, which have been at loggerheads for the past decade.

John Redwood, inner cities minister, said: "I am very pleased to see him offering moral and spiritual leadership and recognising the importance of individual and family morality in urban regeneration." The government had an "extremely strong commitment" to urban renewal but money alone was not enough.

Sir Michael Grylls, chairman of the Commons backbench trade and industry committee, gave "three cheers for waving the banner of moral regeneration".

Calling for an end to the estrangement between individual enterprise and moral objectives, Dr Carey said: "We have inherited, perhaps especially from the 1980s, some confused thinking about the idea of success and the idea of a good society."

He criticised a climate where people and institutions who did not do well materially were regarded as failures. "Christian teaching requires any worldly measure of success to be placed firmly in the perspective of the eternal values taught to us by Jesus Christ, who was himself a flop by worldly standards."

London's future rises in the east

■ **Michael Howard vowed to incorporate lessons learnt in Docklands in ambitious plans for the East Thames Corridor**

BY RACHEL KELLY, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 10,000 acres of derelict land either side of the River Thames will be transformed into a city for the 21st century and a "superb bridgehead" into Europe, the government announced yesterday.

The project, unveiled by the environment secretary, Michael Howard, is designed to create 100,000 jobs, the same number of homes and 7.5 million sq ft of office space in east London, south Essex and north Kent. Mr Howard described the area, the so-called East Thames Corridor, as offering an "unrivalled supply of development sites close to London".



Howard: promise to preserve green belt

He told a news conference that the corridor, which stretches from Docklands to Tilbury and Sheerness, and includes Dartford, the Royal Docks, Rainham, Barking Reach, Greenwich and Thamesmead, would benefit from £4.5 billion of infrastructure projects and the development of the Channel Tunnel rail link, which will cross the Thames near Dartford and go on through Stratford to St Pancras station.

Mr Howard stressed that the intention was not "to concrete over the green belt. We need to provide for development which will bring new employment opportunities whilst addressing the wide-ranging need to protect and improve the environment." Almost 20 per cent of the development land is contaminated by industrial and other pollution.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England said the corridor had huge potential for environmentally-led urban regeneration. Tony Burton, the council's chief planner, said: "This should improve the urban area of east London and reduce development pressure on the countryside."

In recent weeks ministers have described the east Thames scheme as a "safety valve" to halt London's inexorable spread westward. However, Roger Humber, president of the House-Builders Federation, said: "The rate at which you can build in the East Thames Corridor is tiny. The area has got just about everything wrong with it: contaminated land, dreadful transport, and the £4.5 billion the government has announced to help transport is just a drop in the ocean."

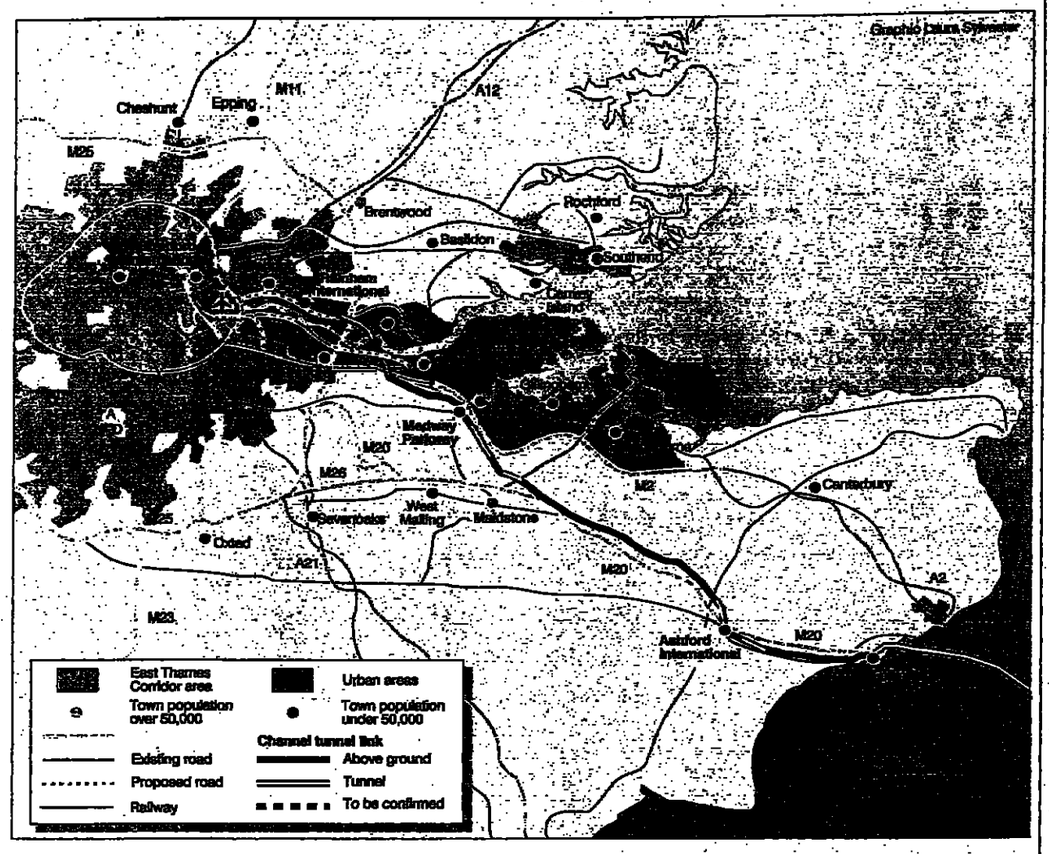
Mr Howard said that development would be flexible and that there was "no question" of imposing a linear city, an idea originally proposed by the then environment secretary, Michael Heseltine, who two years ago suggested a dozen new towns on either side of the river linked by a new road and rail network.

Mr Howard hopes that his approach will avoid the mistakes made in the development of Docklands, where lack of infrastructure has discouraged office tenants and home owners. "We will be planning for a wider range of uses than perhaps we've seen in the Isle of Dogs."

The Association of London Authorities urged Mr Howard to avoid the mistakes of Docklands. Len Duvall, the vice chairman, said: "While the government appears to be learning from some of the mistakes of Docklands, it is important that the lessons are carried through at all stages." The infrastructure had to be in place at the start and be properly funded, while the needs of London as a whole had to be taken into account.

The area contains some of the most important nature sites in Europe. Mr Howard said: "One of my objectives will be to raise the environmental quality, to safeguard its internationally important wildlife habitat."

Large areas of riverside are designated as important winter feeding sites for wading birds, and more than 35,000 acres of the north Kent marshes, from Gravesend to Whitstable, enjoy protected status.



Homes need 'will not be met'

BY OUR PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT plans to develop the East Thames Corridor will fail to meet the demand for housing in the South East, the House-Builders Federation said yesterday.

Roger Humber, president of the federation, said that the goal of 100,000 new homes in the corridor over the next 15 years was unlikely to be reached. "Only a few hundred homes are likely to be built in the next few years," he said. "Pressure will therefore remain on the rest of the South East, where the government has not planned for enough new homes to fulfil demand."

The government yesterday announced that 855,000 homes are to be built in the South East over the next 20 years, including the 100,000 in the corridor. Building will be at a rate of 57,000 homes a year, fewer than were built in the 1970s or 1980s. More than 70,000 homes were built a year in the 1970s, and more than 60,000 a year in the 1980s.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, said his planning policies sought to balance the need to protect the countryside with the need to provide adequate housing.

☐ The fall in house prices has halted, according to the latest housing market survey from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Three quarters of the 155 surveyors who contribute to the survey say prices are stable, compared with a quarter who said so last autumn.

The market is suffering from a shortage of sensibly priced properties, the survey says. The number of prospective buyers has grown since Christmas, but many sellers have failed to drop their prices. Peter Miller, of the institution, said: "Owners needing to sell would be advised to set sensible levels that will attract buyers. The recovering housing market needs more realistic pricing."

NEWSBRIEF

Firm fined for double amputation

A wallpaper company was fined £2,000 yesterday with £3,757 costs after a worker's hands were severed in a freak guillotine accident. Sharon Jackson, 23, has largely recovered the use of her hands, packed in ice and sewn back in a nine-hour operation. A 5ft blade fell as she was cutting board for pattern books. Tests had failed to discover why the accident happened.

Ian Connor, for the prosecution, told magistrates in Preston, Lancashire, that guillotine workers were trained by a form of Chinese whispers, each one subsequently training others. The practice was "totally inadequate".

Forbo Kingfisher of Lancaster admitted breaking the Health and Safety at Work Act. The fine was the maximum for an incident before March 1992, when the level was increased to £20,000.

Kidnap hoax

A woman at Bracknell, Berkshire, handed over her £10,000 car, jewellery and television to a gang that pretended it had kidnapped her husband on his way to the office. She waited six hours before discovering the deception.

Chef on bail

Marco Pierre White, 31, the youngest chef to receive two Michelin stars for his restaurant in Wandsworth, south-west London, was remanded on bail by South Western magistrates, London, on a charge of causing criminal damage.

Boys expelled

Four boy boarders have been expelled and a fifth suspended for holding a marijuana party in the grounds of Trent College, the mixed public school at Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

Mare knifed

An attacker hacked off the tongue of a pregnant racehorse grazing at Llanbradach, Mid Glamorgan. The foal is in danger because the mare cannot eat properly.

The Swedes have one of Europe's highest standards of living.

(It starts at 31,000 ft.)

Free drinks. Free newspapers. Food you'll actually enjoy. Clean, modern, aircraft. Flight times that let you put in a full day's work. In fact, a style of service between Gatwick and Stockholm never experienced before. All for a lowly £390 return. Transwede set high standards, not high prices. Call 0293 568812 or your travel agent.

TRANSWEDE

Major sets out plans to reduce pollution

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BUDGET measures to impose VAT on power and raise road fuel duties would reduce annual carbon emissions by three million tonnes by the year 2000, John Major said yesterday.

The government must act, even when that meant taking difficult and unpopular measures, the prime minister said. "The environmental buck stops in our back yard — nowhere else." He was determined to take the lead in implementing measures, agreed at last year's Earth Summit in Rio, with a national plan produced by the end of the year.

"It made no sense for the government to commit Britain to lower carbon dioxide emissions but at the same time to be the only EC government with no VAT on domestic fuels — a textbook case of perverse signals.

"Nor did it make sense for the government to exhort motorists and manufacturers to choose and build fuel-efficient cars, while refusing to give them tangible incentives."

The government could not meet its targets through tax changes alone, he said. He announced a range of measures to clean up the global environment, which he said would take Britain two-thirds of the way to meeting its Rio targets.

British industry had a long track record of successful technology co-operation around the world which should be made more widely available and used. He launched a global technology partnership conference in Birmingham which, in a three-year programme, would aim to allow the newly industrialising countries to bypass old technologies and move straight to cleaner processes.

There were valuable commercial opportunities in technology exchanges which the initiative was designed to promote.

Mr Major said: "We need a comprehensive approach and that means using a range of instruments and seeking lower emissions from all sectors. Growing economies can invest in technologies which save energy or recycle waste."

He heralded an energy saving trust to devise and implement programmes to improve energy efficiency; a new energy management assistance scheme to help small businesses with advice on energy efficiency; a new unit in the Department of Trade and Industry dedicated to co-ordinating the initiative to develop technologies to individual business needs; a training scheme under which UK companies would help senior business people from developing countries to acquire practical experience of modern technology management and production methods.

The government did not want to take measures that would damage the competitiveness of industry, because economic recovery was essential for creating the conditions under which Britain could meet its Rio commitments. "A tax that added to business costs, dulled competitiveness, would, at best, have retarded that — at worst, undermined it completely." He rejected the arguments of those who said that there was a choice between economic growth and the environment or even that growth was the enemy of the environment. "Growing economies can invest in technologies which save energy or recycle waste.

"No-growth policies would mean no-green policies either. They would range environmental concerns against concerns about jobs, about living standards."

Westminster's imbalance of power colours political dreams



Class war: Gyles Brandreth and Glenda Jackson start their political careers

Robert Kilroy-Silk first attracted public attention when he confessed his ambitions to become prime minister in a television interview shortly after his election in 1974. He may have had the last laugh since he is now better known as a television personality than he was ever likely to be in politics. His remarks provoked much sneering from fellow MPs, largely because he had admitted in public the hopes which most new members only cherish in private.

He was, however, talking at a time when the parties alternated in office and new MPs could reasonably dream of a ministerial red box. That may no longer be true after nearly 14 years of Tory rule. The ambitions of new MPs now vary, depending on which party they are in.

This is suggested by the first results of a fascinating new survey of the expectations of new MPs undertaken by Michael Rush of the University of Exeter for a research project of the Study of Parliament Group. More than three-fifths of the new MPs elected last April replied to a questionnaire.

The new members are a diverse bunch, from the already famous like Glenda Jackson or Gyles Brandreth, trying to adapt to their new environment, to the obscure eager to make their names. Almost all, around 95 per cent, believe that being an MP should be a full-time job, and emphasise the primary importance of work for their constituents.

Most striking is the difference in their ambitions. More than two out of three Tories expect their parliamentary careers to last 20 or more years, while little more than a fifth of Labour members do. That may be partly because most Tory MPs elected last year inherited safe seats from retiring members, while a sizeable number of the new Labour MPs won marginal seats from the Tories and are realistically cautious about the length of their Commons service.

More than a half of new MPs covered in the survey hope to become ministers, but there is a sharp contrast between the parties. More than 60 per cent of new

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tories have such hopes, but only 43 per cent of new Labour members do. Moreover, while no Tories denied ministerial ambitions, nearly a fifth of new Labour MPs did, with two-fifths as don't knows.

That, in turn, may have been influenced by the length of time the Tories have been in power, although quite a number of the new Labour intake, such as the many former council leaders and committee chairmen, might have entertained eventual ministerial ambitions if Labour had won the election.

The contrasting ambitions also affect attitudes to their work as backbenchers. Labour MPs place considerably more emphasis than Tories — 50 per cent against 29 per cent — on scrutinising and keeping a check on the government and civil service.

But how far are MPs from the two main parties becoming permanently government or Opposition minded? This question, not so far explored by the study, is reflected not only in the triumphalism of some of the new Tories, the belief that they will always be in power, but also in the implicit assumption of some Labour members that they will never be in office.

This in turn encourages irresponsibility, a reluctance to consider the implications of exercising power. That has occurred in the American House of Representatives where the Republicans have been in a minority for more than 38 years.

In Britain, there is a tendency on the Opposition side to criticise what the government is doing almost for the sake of it. Although the shift to hospital trusts and grant maintained schools will, in practice, be irreversible by the time of the next election, some Labour MPs behave almost as if they want the changes to fail. The line between the constructive criticism of a government-in-waiting and the negative carping of a permanent Opposition is critical to the credibility of Labour. An MP may have to think and behave like a minister if he or she wants to become one.

PETER RIDDELL

AROUND THE LOBBY

MPs force a show of support

Labour MPs used the unusual tactic of forcing a division against a bill they supported to illustrate its widespread backing.

David Hinchliffe (Wakefield) introduced a bill to require agencies providing staff to care for the elderly and sick in their own homes to be registered. Leave to bring the bill, which has all-party support, was granted by 188 votes to one.

Power sale

Northern Ireland Electricity is to be privatised in the early summer, Robert Atkins, a Northern Ireland minister, said in a written reply. The public will be encouraged to buy shares.

Register goes

The government is to withdraw plans for registers of contaminated sites following claims that they would have worsened planning blight, Michael Howard, the environment secretary, announced.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: agriculture; prime minister. European communities (amendment) bill, committee, 18th day. Lords (3): Trade union reform and employment rights bill, committee.

Lilley paves the way for cuts in benefits

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A PUBLIC relations offensive to highlight the rising cost of social security spending and pave the way for heavy cuts is to be mounted by Peter Lilley.

The soaring costs of state support for residential care of the elderly, for single parents, for housing benefit and invalidity benefit will be examined by the social security secretary in a series of papers to be published alongside the confidential Treasury review of medium- to long-term trends in public spending.

The exercise is a departure from the usual secrecy surrounding public spending decisions and is intended to create a climate in which it might be politically possible to make deep and lasting reductions in the £80 billion-a-year social security budget.

The papers will show that social security spending has risen by 67 per cent, after discounting the effects of inflation, since 1979, taking the total bill from £17 billion to £78 billion. But this headline total masks much bigger rises in some areas. State subsidies for people living in old people's homes, for example, have risen from £10 million in 1979 to £2.5 billion today. The numbers claiming assistance have grown from 12,000 to 265,000.

Changes to the traditional family unit are also imposing a burden on the taxpayer. A decade ago the bill for single-parent families was £1.3 billion; it is now £4.3 billion.

Labour issues challenge

BY NICHOLAS WOOD

LABOUR yesterday challenged the government to publish performance targets for Whitehall departments as it accused central government of lagging behind town halls in the implementation of the Citizen's charter.

An Opposition survey of 312 local authorities found that about half have made significant changes aimed at improving standards of service. However, only 20 per cent were measuring their performance against published indicators, apparently because most authorities are awaiting the results of work by the Audit Commission.

The survey was published as William Waldegrave, the public service secretary, urged BR to go on raising punctuality and reliability targets.

Marjorie Mowlam, the shadow public service secretary, said: "This government has only succeeded in devaluing the currency of charters by using them as political gimmicks."

Dixons
0% INTEREST* on 486 PCs FROM PACKARD BELL



NEW PACKARD BELL
486SX HARD DRIVE COLOUR PC
- 25MHz Intel 486SX processor
- 125Mb hard drive
- 4Mb RAM (expandable to 32Mb)
- Local Bus with Windows Accelerator for superb, fast, Windows graphics
- Super VGA colour monitor
- 3½" 1.44Mb floppy disk drive
- Software includes Microsoft DOS 5.0, Microsoft Windows 3.1, Navigator, Microsoft Works and Microsoft Money.
Model: Legend Elite 445G
Includes 12 months on-site service.

0% INTEREST

Dixons Deal
£1349.99 inc. VAT | £1148.93 ex. VAT
20% DEPOSIT & 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £180 inc. VAT
*On Selected Models

NEW FAST 486SX PC

NEW PACKARD BELL
486SX HARD DRIVE COLOUR PC
- 33MHz Intel 486SX processor
- 170Mb hard drive
- 4Mb RAM (expandable to 32Mb)
- Dual media floppy disk drive
- Low radiation non-interlaced Super VGA colour monitor
- Software includes Microsoft DOS 5.0, Microsoft Windows 3.1, Navigator, Lotus 1-2-3, Lotus Ami Pro and Lotus Organiser.
Model: Legend Elite 605H
Includes 12 months on-site service

170 Mb HARD DISK DRIVE
Huge storage facility to hold a massive amount of programs and data.

LOCAL BUS WITH WINDOWS ACCELERATOR
Superb fast Windows graphics, saving time and making applications easier to use.



0% INTEREST

Dixons Deal
£1699.99 inc. VAT | £1446.80 ex. VAT
20% DEPOSIT & 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £226.67 inc. VAT

NEW 486SX PC



PACKARD BELL
486SX HARD DRIVE COLOUR PC
25MHz Intel 486SX processor. 85Mb hard drive. 2Mb RAM (expandable to 32Mb). Local Bus with Windows Accelerator. Super VGA colour monitor. Software includes Microsoft DOS 5.0, Microsoft Windows 3.1, Navigator, Microsoft Works and Microsoft Money.
Model: Legend Elite 435E
Includes 12 months on-site service
Dixons Deal £1149.99 inc. VAT | £978.71 ex. VAT

FAST TOWER PC

66 MHz 486 DX POWER



PACKARD BELL
486DX2 HARD DRIVE COLOUR PC
66MHz Intel 486DX2 processor. 210Mb hard drive. 4Mb RAM (expandable to 32Mb) with 512K cache memory. Local Bus with Windows Accelerator. Dual media floppy disk drives. Low radiation non-interlaced Super VGA colour monitor with 1Mb video memory on board. Software includes Microsoft DOS 5.0, Microsoft Windows 3.1, Navigator, Lotus 1-2-3, Lotus Ami Pro and Lotus Organiser.
Model: Legend Elite 966TJ
Includes 12 months on-site service
Dixons Deal £2499.99 inc. VAT | £2127.65 ex. VAT
LARGER STORES ONLY

the BUSINESS CENTRE

Dixons
WE DEFY YOU TO BEAT OUR PRICES

"Lowest Prices Guaranteed. If you buy a product from us and within 7 days from the date of purchase the same item is delivered cheaper in a National advertisement, and is available locally, we will refund the difference on production of your receipt and a copy of the ad advertised. This offer excludes extensively advertised products for supply by mail order.

OVER 175 BUSINESS CENTRES. Call 081-200 0200 for details.
Dixons welcome all major credit cards including Access, Visa, Style, American Express and Diners Club.
Written quotations from Dixons Stores Group Ltd, MK, 54-58 High Street, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7EG. Dixons are licensed credit brokers.

At Dixons
YOU PAY NO EXTRA FOR 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE
- Service is available in your office or home for 12 months at no extra charge. This is included with most PCs.
- Exclusive After-Sales Hotline Support For advice on your new hardware or software just dial our special DIXONS PC PLUS HOTLINE – 0998 707707. Expertly-trained staff will be on hand to help you Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm. Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at all other times.
- Prices are shown both including and excluding VAT. The price shown is the price you pay.

NOW, B&Q INTRODUCE ON KEY D.I.Y





Crown Matt Vinyl Emulsion
Pure Brilliant White.
10 Litres
Old Price £17.99
£16.99



Crown Matt Vinyl Emulsion
Pure Brilliant White.
5 Litres
Old Price £10.99, £10.79
£9.99



Crown Matt or Silk Vinyl Emulsion
Pure Brilliant White.
2.5 Litres
Old Price £7.29 each
£6.79 each



B&Q Non Drip Gloss
Pure Brilliant White.
2.5 Litres
Old Price £7.99
£6.99



Dulux Weathershield Fine Texture Masonry Paint
Brilliant White. 5 Litres
Old Price £15.99
£11.99



Cuprinol Garden TimberCare
Rich Oak
9 Litres
Old Price £11.99
£9.99

KEY D.I.Y

IT'S THE SIGN OF LOW PRICES- NAILED DOWN TO STAY DOWN

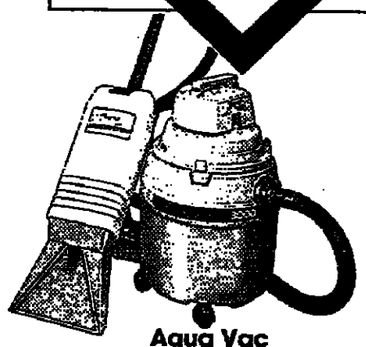
KEY D.I.Y

EXTRA LOW PRICES ON OVER 500 KEY D.I.Y PRODUCTS

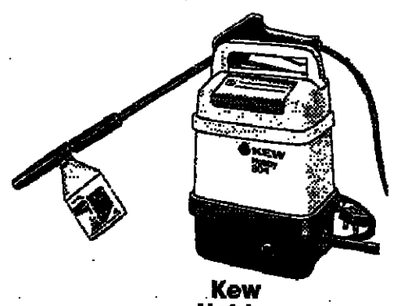
We identified all the products most regularly bought by you our customers – the KEY D.I.Y products.

Then, we brought the prices down on over 300 of them, so they would all be at a low, low price – week in, week out.

Look for the KEY D.I.Y symbol throughout the store, it's the sign of low prices.



Aqua Vac Multisystem 3000
1000 watt carpet shampooer and domestic wet and dry vacuum cleaner.
Old Price £97.95
£89.99



Kew Hobby 80-1 Pressure Washer
Old Price £199.95
£169.95



Skil 'Baseline' Single Speed Jigsaw 4200H
380 watt. With fitted 13 amp plug.
Old Price £29.99
£28.49



Black & Decker Workmate 536
Dual height workbench. Folds flat for easy storage.
Old Price £62.95
£59.95

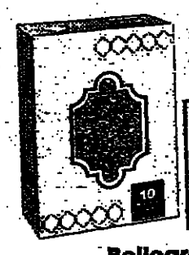
OPENING HOURS Monday to Saturday 8am-8pm. Most stores open Sundays 9am-6pm. **RING 081-466 4166 FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE**

هكذا من الأصل

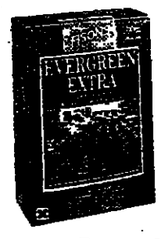
A NEW PRICING POLICY PRODUCTS.



Cristal Kitchen Harmony KH1 Ceramic Wall Tiles
Available in Plain.
15.2 x 15.2cm (approx).
Old Price £7.99
£6.99



Bellegrove 'Provencal' Ceramic Floor Tiles
16 x 23.5cm (approx).
Box of 10.
Old Price £5.99
£4.49



Fisons Evergreen Extra Lawn Feed
Contains MCPA, mecoprop and ferrous sulphate.
3.5kg treats 100sq.m.
Old Price £9.49
£6.99



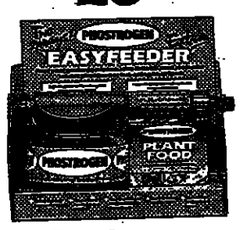
ICI Triple Action 'Grass Hopper'
Contains 2,4-D, dicamba and ferrous sulphate. 4.5kg with ready to use spreader, treats 67sq.m.
Old Price £9.99
£6.99



ICI 'Pathclear'
Not for cultivated areas. Contains aminotriazole, diquat, paraquat and simazine. 4 sachets, treats 67sq.m. Old Price £5.49
£4.49



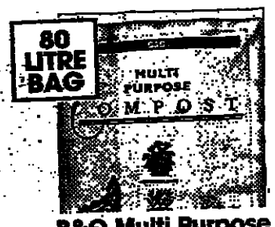
ICI 'Miracle-Gro'
Concentrated water soluble plant food.
1kg pack
Old Price £3.99
£2.99



Phostrogen 'Easyfeeder' Extra
Handle twists for on/off. Select lighter or heavier spray. Includes 125g pack of plant food.
Old Price £7.99
£4.99



B&Q Hanging Basket Kit
Contains 12" wire hanging basket, fibre liner, bracket with fixings, bag of compost and 125g plant food.
Old Price £9.99
£4.99



B&Q Multi Purpose Compost
For potting plants, cuttings, hanging baskets and seedlings.
80 Litre bag.
Old Price £6.99
£3.99

READ THE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY · USE PESTICIDES SAFELY



Terracotta 'Bell' Pot
13" diameter.
Old Price £8.99
£4.99

Terracotta Standard Pot
12" diameter.
Old Price £6.49
£2.99



Leylandii Hedging Conifer
In 3 Litre container.
Old Price £3.79
£2.79



Bush Roses
In 3.5 Litre container.
Old Price £3.99 each
£2.99 each



Flowering Heathers
In 9cm pots.
Old Price 99p each
79p each

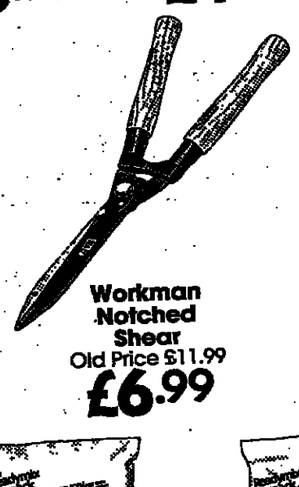


Workman Digging Spade
Old Price £7.99
£6.99

Workman Digging Fork
Old Price £7.99
£6.99



Wilkinson Sword 'Series 900' Small Bypass Pruner
Old Price £12.25
£7.99



Workman Notched Shear
Old Price £11.99
£6.99



Fisons Maxi Lawn Spreader
18" width for easy application and marker wheels for extra accuracy.
Old Price £14.99
£9.99



Silverline Premier 16" Petrol Rotary Mower
16" cut, grass collection. 6 position height adjustment. 3.75hp Briggs & Stratton Sprint engine.
Old Price £159.99
£149.99



Gardena 1910-28 Adjustable Spray Gun
With flow control and trigger with lock.
Old Price £6.49
£3.99



Irving Picnic Table
Self-assembly.
All fixings included.
Old Price £49.99
£39.99



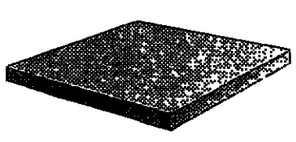
Readymix Drypack Sand Cement Mortar
50kg net weight.
Old Price £5.49
£3.95



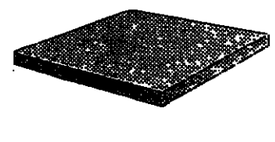
Readymix Drypack Bricklaying Mortar
50kg gross weight.
Old Price £5.49
£3.95



Readymix Drypack Coarse Concrete
50kg gross weight.
Old Price £5.99
£3.95



Paving Slabs
'Countryside' Smooth. Natural.
600 x 600 x 37mm.
Old Price £2.85
£2.29



Paving Slabs
'Thamesfone' York. Grey.
450 x 450 x 37mm
Old Price £1.25
£1.19



Hills Merlin Rotary Clothes Drier
125ft, 3 arms.
Old Price £15.99
£9.99



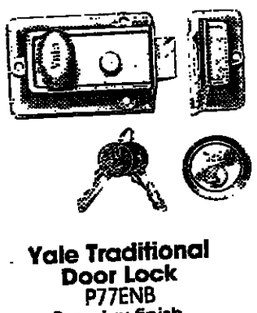
Rehau Green Lawn Reinforced Garden Hose
½" diameter.
Old Price £12.95
£6.99



Harcostar Water Butt
With tap and lid.
37gallons/168 Litres.
Old Price £34.99
£16.99



Georgian Style Lever Latch Set
99-1714.
Brass finish.
Old Price £26.59
£18.99



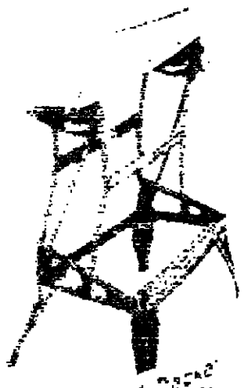
Yale Traditional Door Lock
P77ENB
Brasslux finish.
Old Price £16.49
£13.99



Hardboard Top Paste Table
Folds flat, with carrying handle.
Old Price £7.49
£6.75



Crown 'Diane' Wallpaper
Speckle or stripe design in various colours.
Old Price £5.99
£2.99 per roll



£59.95



Thompson's Water Seal
Transparent waterproofing sealant. 5 Litre
Old Price £14.99
£9.99



Marley 38kg Heavy Weight Roofing Felt
10m x 1m.
Green
Mineral Finish.
Old Price £7.99
£7.49

Offers are subject to availability. Sizes shown are approximate. Some of our smaller Supercentres may not stock the full range of products, please 'phone to check before travelling. 'Old Prices' did not apply in B&Q DEPOT.



Peace team admits Serbs will not sign Bosnia accord

By James Bone in New York and Our Foreign Staff

■ Evacuation of the wounded by helicopter is proving perilous. The Serbs appear determined to violate a UN agreement

THE international mediators on Bosnia have acknowledged publicly what has been increasingly obvious for weeks: that the Bosnian Serbs, who are enjoying success on the battlefield, have no intention of signing their peace plan for the former Yugoslav republic soon.

Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the co-chairmen of the talks, have given Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, permission to leave the negotiating table to return home after an exasperating attempt to win his support for their proposals.

While the mediators were acknowledging Serb intransigence, two Royal Navy Sea King helicopters yesterday braved Serb artillery fire to evacuate two wounded Canadian United Nations soldiers and three Muslim civilians from the besieged town of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia.

The Canadians had been injured, one seriously, when the Serbs fired ten shells on to the helicopter landing zone at Srebrenica shortly after three French Pumas had evacuated 21 wounded Muslim civilians. The Sea Kings also narrowly escaped being hit as Serb shells crashed around the landing zone at the football stadium.

Hundreds of people who had gathered at the town's football stadium to greet the French helicopters had to dive for cover as shells landed within 50 metres of where the Pumas had been parked. One Muslim civilian was killed. In an attack earlier in the morning on the football pitch, two Muslims died. Four were also wounded.

As the Sea Kings arrived, the Serbs fired two artillery shells and sporadic shelling continued as the wounded were carried on board. "Luckily, they managed to get out without a scratch," a spokesman for the UN protection force said. The artillery fire violated the agreement which had been reached between Bosnian Serb commanders and General Philippe Morillon, the French commander of the UN forces in Bosnia.

Lord Owen said Dr Karadzic rejected the mediators' plan to divide Bosnia into ten semi-autonomous republics, which would require the Serbs to withdraw from more than 40 per cent of the land they now control. He added that the Bosnian Serbs also disagreed with the mediators on the structure of an interim government after a peace accord.

"It is very clear that he still wants the republic of Srpska," Lord Owen said of Dr Karadzic's self-proclaimed Serb state in Bosnia. "At this point, there is no chance of him coming round." In itself, Dr Karadzic's expected departure will not end the peace process because the mediators never held out great hope for early Serb acceptance.

Since they moved the talks to New York from Geneva in January, Lord Owen and Mr Vance have focused instead on getting the Muslim-led Bosnian government to join the Bosnian Croats in accepting the plan.

Their strategy has been, once the Muslims sign, to use heavy international pressure, including new UN sanctions on the Serb-led rump of Yugoslavia, to force the Serbs to sign, too.

Talks continued at UN headquarters yesterday to try to get the Muslims to accept the Vance-Owen accord. But the turmoil in Russia has cast a long shadow over the second phase of Lord Owen and Mr Vance's approach.

In recent days, Russia has stalled repeatedly a planned security council vote to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia, apparently concerned that President Yeltsin's opponents might use Russian support for the anti-Serb measure as ammunition in their battle against him.

Although the security council was due to vote on the no-fly zone enforcement again late yesterday, Russia's attitude has made clear that it will be very difficult for the UN to impose further sanctions on the Serbs even if the Bosnian Muslims do accept the plan.

The Western powers want to tighten the existing UN trade embargo on Yugoslavia by banning all trans-shipment of goods across Yugoslav territory, restricting traffic on the Danube river and seizing Belgrade's foreign assets. But they may be forced to put off any action until the power struggle in Moscow is resolved, lest the new sanctions on the Serbs weaken Mr Yeltsin's domestic position.

Another option if the Serbs fail to sign the Vance-Owen plan is for the leading powers to convene an international conference on the former Yugoslavia. Possible steps would include exempting the Bosnian government from the UN arms embargo, or even intervening more heavily militarily.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the UN special investigator, said yesterday that the siege of Srebrenica was another example of "ethnic cleansing".

"It is difficult to describe what is happening in Srebrenica in other words. It is undoubtedly a continuation of that policy," he said.

Mr Mazowiecki, a former Polish prime minister appointed by the UN to investigate human rights abuses in the former Yugoslavia, said there were other violations. He cited what he said was discrimination against Serbs in Croatia and against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

The International Court of Justice said in The Hague yesterday that it will hold the first public hearings on April 1 in Bosnia's war crimes case against the rump state of Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro.

Bosnia accused Serbia and its ally Montenegro of genocide and other war crimes in an application filed to the court last week. "Yugoslavia has killed, murdered, wounded, raped, robbed, tortured, kidnapped, illegally detained and exterminated the citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina and is continuing to do so," Bosnia said in its application.

West polices 7,462 ships

Belgrade: Nato and Western European Union naval ships patrolling the Adriatic have challenged 7,462 vessels since last December in their attempt to police the United Nations trade embargo on the rump Yugoslavia and the arms ban on its former republics (Tim Judah writes). The figures have been revealed by *Lloyd's List*, the newspaper of the shipping business, in an article citing American State Department sources.



Pointing the way: Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs, with a map of the republic at a press conference in New York

Belgium lurches into next crisis

From George Brock in Brussels

THE Belgian cabinet teetered on the brink yesterday of becoming Europe's first government to fall because of the unratified Maastricht treaty.

The four-party coalition government that offered its resignation on Tuesday sat in querulous limbo yesterday as King Baudouin called in political leaders in an attempt to avoid a general election. The unfortunate king is well on the way to becoming a part-time politician himself: Belgian governments now wobble so often that a royal referee is often needed. The present government, led by Jean-Luc Dehaene, has lasted only 380 days so far and took 100 days before that to assemble.

The bull-like Mr Dehaene's legendary patience was exhausted by a deadlock over how the country can meet the stringent economic tests which were written into the Maastricht treaty for European Community states that want to join a single currency towards the end of the decade. His plan to reduce the huge government debt included limiting pay increases and putting the savings into the state's impoverished social security funds. Wages and salaries in Belgium have been increased by an automatic index since 1938, however, and French-speaking Socialists objected.

"Some people do not realise the seriousness of the situation and are playing games," Mr Dehaene muttered as he marched off to the palace, hoping to scare his opponents with the threat of a general election.

Threats of an unwanted poll should be enough to bring the political parties back into line. The currency would be weakened by a full-scale crisis. Belgium is due to assume the Community rotating presidency in July, and would risk having no government when its turn began. The complicated scheme to turn the kingdom into a federal state would have to be restarted from scratch.

EC puts shiver in Arctic circles

By Tom Walker

THE European Commission yesterday cleared the way for Norwegian membership of the European Community and formal entry talks will start next month. But the political machinery in Oslo seems out of touch with public opinion. In Sweden and Finland, polls on membership waver towards rejection; in Norway the majority never seems to have considered otherwise.

"Just say no," bellowed Kristen Nygaard, a shambling hulk of a man, loud and convivial, from the steps of the Norwegian parliament. Life is going well for him these days; his "No to the EC" campaign has all the momentum of a runaway train.

Gro Harlem Brundtland, the prime minister, knows that she is in for a long fight. "I am glad that we have two years; this is a very difficult process in a small country. It is very necessary that our fishermen and farmers think and feel their security and future is safe in wider European hands."

The outcome of a referendum late next year will largely depend on whether her government can convince Norway's far-flung communities that their lives would not be shattered by Euro-directives. Norway would not join the EC before 1995, along with Sweden and Finland.

Thomas Hylland Eriksen, a social anthropologist at Oslo University, believes that the differences of opinion before the referendum will be narrow, but not enough to save Mrs Brundtland from humiliating defeat. He predicts a 56 per cent "no" vote. One of the problems, he said, was that voting "no" was radical chic among the under-30s.

Manchester Airport Terminal Information

DEPARTING FROM TERMINAL 2

FROM TODAY
Britannia Airways
Air 2000
Air Malta
FROM SUNDAY 28TH MARCH
American Airlines
Delta Air Lines
Cathay Pacific
Qantas
Emirates
Air Canada
Singapore Airlines
Pakistan International Airlines
South African Airways

All other airlines, including British Airways, depart from Terminal 1.
Canadian Airlines International and Gulf Air will operate from Terminal 2 at a later date.

From today, flights are clear for take-off from Manchester Airport's new Terminal 2.

And from Sunday 28th March the long-haul airlines listed will also operate from the new terminal. Arriving passengers, who may have departed from Terminal 1, should be met at Terminal 2. However, should you require it, there is a regular shuttle service running between each terminal.

And while we're on the subject of new arrivals, May 17th sees the first train arriving at Manchester Airport's own rail station. A £28 million direct link to all major railway stations in the North, making Europe's fastest growing airport even easier to get to.

For further information on T2 please call our 24 hour hotline on

0800 222 200

Manchester Airport

One of the World's Great Airports

Japan faces demand to join aid package as fears over Moscow military grow

Clinton and Major press on with G7 rescue for Kremlin

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ If the G7 nations agree to hold an emergency summit, major new international aid could be released for Russia

PRESIDENT Clinton and John Major discussed the Russian crisis for 30 minutes by telephone yesterday and agreed that finance and foreign ministers of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations should meet in Tokyo on April 13 and 14, government officials said. The other five G7 nations have yet to agree.

Unconfirmed reports in Washington yesterday suggested that the meeting could lead to an emergency G7 summit to seal a new international aid package for Russia.

Before flying to Washington yesterday for meetings with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, and other top officials, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said there was now "intensive discussion among the Western powers as to what kind of practical help we can give above the political statements of support".

The Clinton administration is also preparing to push for much greater Japanese participation in an aid package. Tokyo has so far refused to make big contributions because of its territorial dispute with Moscow over the Kurile islands, but US patience is wearing thin.

"The Japanese have not been forthcoming, and that's something we need to work on. We are asking everybody to make this a priority," said a White House official.

Kiichi Miyazawa, Japan's prime minister, is to meet Mr Clinton at the White House on April 16. The former president, Richard Nixon, said recently that unless Japan increased its "shockingly inadequate" aid Mr Yeltsin would fail and "they will never get the islands back".

Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian foreign minister, was meeting Mr Clinton yesterday to brief him on the Russian situation, discuss US bilateral aid, and plan the April 3-4 summit with President Yeltsin, which now looks certain to be held in Vancouver as moving it to Moscow could make the Russian leader look weak.

In a speech in Washington yesterday, Mr Kozyrev called for the lifting of the West's Cocom restrictions on high-technology trade with Russia and a phased integration of Russia into the G7. He said Russia stood at a "dramatic and crucial moment" but insisted there was no reason to "panic or predict civil war".

The international aid package would focus primarily on rescheduling the $80 billion debt Russia inherited from the former Soviet Union and ways of relaxing restrictions on loans to Russia from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. Tomorrow Mr Clinton meets Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, whose country is owed roughly 60 per cent of that debt.

According to officials, Mr Clinton and Mr Hurd agreed on the importance of improving Russia's macro-economic discipline over inflation. "There is no point putting money in unless there are ways of controlling the central bank."

The New York Times reported yesterday that Mr Clinton had decided to stress his staunch support for Mr Yeltsin during Tuesday's news conference despite advice from aides that he should restrict himself to a perfunctory reference. Mr Clinton did not want to be accused of having "lost" Russia, as Harry Truman was accused of having lost China.

□ **Brussels:** The European Commission yesterday offered Russia hope of an eventual free trade pact with the EC as an incentive to keep Moscow on its shaky path of democratic and economic reform.

The Commission stressed such a development could occur only "when economic and political circumstances in Russia are suitable". *(Reuter)*

Direct rule out, page 1



Cold warriors: Russian presidential guards goose-stepping past a lone member of the militia at the Kremlin wall yesterday as heavy snow fell in Moscow. President Yeltsin has expanded his guard and converted it into a personal regiment as he strengthens his defences against his opponents in parliament, which is dominated by hardline anti-reformists (Anne McElvoy writes). Meanwhile, the army is living up to a pledge by General Pavel Grachev, the defence minister, that it will remain neutral in the political conflict. Patriach Aleksi II, the head of the Russian Orthodox Church, has echoed an appeal by the president for the military to retain its neutral role, calling on all men under arms to remember their duty to the nation to protect civic peace and to avoid becoming "fuel for the fire of political extremism".

Russians put little faith in salvation from the West

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

WORLD Bank representatives have increased the number of their appointments at Moscow's ministries, newspapers and enterprises this week, asking everyone for their opinion on how the West should react to current political events in Russia.

Along with their International Monetary Fund colleagues and diplomats making preparations for the Group of Seven meeting, they have been sent to Russia to find out what they can do to improve the country's present woeful confusion. After two days trudging round Moscow, however, they admit they are finding it difficult to develop a useful strategy in the face of the constantly changing situation.

When it comes to dispensing cash aid, the West has so far held back. Of the modest 1992 offer of $24 billion (£16 billion) only $13.4 billion has actually been disbursed. President Clinton is determined to break the political stalemate with a new aid programme centred on a large debt deferral and the provision of a social security net to combat the effects of unemployment created by large-scale economic restructuring. The programme would also finance hardship allowances for state employees who have been bypassed by the entrepreneurial boom and for pensioners who, unless helped by their families, can starve to death on a state pension in the new Russia.

The project is the brainchild of George Soros, the Hungarian entrepreneur, whose experience of the effects of restructuring in Eastern Europe have led him to conclude that the most demoralising aspect as far as the workforce and their dependants are concerned is the lack of a safety net and the fear that backing reform could mean supporting their own penury. But a subsistence payment to a Russian worker rendered unemployed in a rationalisation or factory closure would cost only $6 a month, so the proposed social package of from $3 billion to $4 billion could be spread wide enough to allow those at the bottom of the economic pile to benefit.

Before the G7 convenes for its next meeting, the Clinton administration and European governments, who will be called on to back any package agreed, must decide what the aid is intended to achieve. Governments are tending still to fight the last battle rather than the present one, and still argue about whether more Western help could have saved Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet president.

Russian diplomats and ministry officials continue to lobby the West for aid and give warnings of the dire consequences if it is not forthcoming. But the causality chain in Russian politics is notoriously vague, and attempts to forge a link between Western aid or the lack of it and events in Russia are generally speaking pointless.

A growing body of Russians who inhabit the nationalist as well as the liberal camps are wary of the West's money. Internal critics point out that the more the West is seen to support President Yeltsin, the more his nationalist foes can present him as a Western stooge. There is a bedrock of distrust of the West in Russia, and this is one reason why wiser Russian economists like Boris Fyodorov, the deputy prime minister, emphasise the need for long term co-operation in reform rather than simply doling out emergency funds in an attempt to buy the desired political outcome.

Tatiana Malkina, political correspondent of *Sevodnya* (Today), is representative of a young generation of liberals who are sceptical about the West's view that it can "save" Russia through aid. "It is a reworking of the old 'sausage question' which has been the basis of the relationship between the rulers and the masses for centuries," she says. "If I give you a sausage, what do I expect in return? If President Clinton gives the unemployed in Russia a sausage, there must be something he wants back — maybe the sausages should come with 'Vote Yeltsin' rather than 'Vote Khasbulatov' on them.

"But Mr Yeltsin's fate is likely to have been determined long before we have decided what sort of sausages are on offer."

Red herrings, page 18



Soros: sees a social safety net as essential

Yeltsin starts to win over doubters

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

WITH the immediate crisis in Moscow apparently over, everything for President Yeltsin now depends on the April 25 plebiscite.

Since he has not decided on the form of the new constitution and has restricted the vote to one of confidence in him, much of the opposition from local authorities can be expected to evaporate. Now that the constitutional court has ruled the plebiscite constitutional, local authorities across Russia have accepted it.

Even Mintimer Shamiyev, the president of the Tatar autonomous republic, which is seeking greater independence from Moscow, has said he agrees to the plebiscite in its present form.

Mr Yeltsin's dramatic offensive, although he has now retreated on several points, has had an important effect. Previously, conservative-dominated local councils, and even many Russian democrats, were opposed to the plebiscite. They have now been forced to accept it as a much lesser evil than presidential rule.

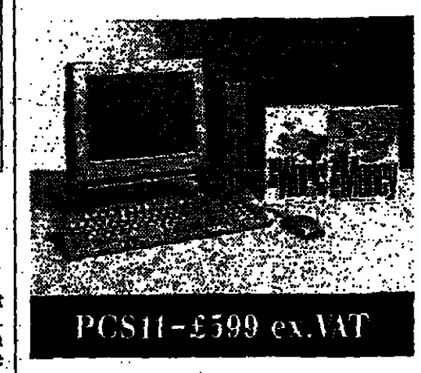
This seems to apply not just to the provinces, but also to the autonomous republics, such as Tatarstan. It had been feared that, if they boycotted a referendum and the resulting constitution, this could be the first step to Russia's disintegration. They also seem to have fallen into line, and will carry out the plebiscite, however half-heartedly.

Mr Yeltsin, however, is far from out of the woods. Most Russians remain deeply apathetic to the plebiscite, and for the president there is a clear risk that a majority will not vote. The great task for Mr Yeltsin between now and April 25 will be to persuade them to turn out. If they do, most opinion polls suggest that President Yeltsin will win, as the parliament is more unpopular than he is.

All trademarks acknowledged.

"My PCS came with £500 worth of business and financial software. It just doesn't add up."

You can get £500 worth of software with the PCS range, even if you buy the PCS11 which only costs £599 ex.VAT itself.



In addition to all the pre-loaded software, you can claim the best selling Microsoft Works for Windows and Microsoft Money.

Just pick up an application form when buying your PCS and send it along with proof of purchase*.

The PCS hardware alone represents outstanding value. They're all fully compatible MS-DOS based PCs ranging from the PCS11 which houses 386 power but is only A4 in size, to the very powerful PCS44 (486SX).

It's also reassuring to know that over 80,000 people in the UK are already successfully running their homes or small business with PCS.

The PCS Range – Technical Specification

	PCS11	PCS33	PCS44
Processor	386SX	386SX	486SX
Speed	16MHz	25MHz	25MHz
RAM Std	2Mb	2Mb	4Mb
RAM Max	10Mb	10Mb	20Mb
HDU	40Mb	40Mb	85Mb
Price ex.VAT	£599	£699	£1,049

All above specifications include: Colour VGA monitor • Mouse PS/2 compatible • Software pre-installed on hard-disk: Tutorial and User Guide, MS-DOS 5, Windows 3, Norton Anti-virus, Double Disk Compressor.
Microsoft Works for Windows • Word processing with spelling checker, database with reporting, spreadsheet with charting, drawing with page layout and communications. Microsoft Money • Track expenses, set budgets, amortise loans, create reports.

*Offer valid until 1st May 1993 (application forms must be received by Olivetti by 15th May 1993). Pick up an application form for this software on purchase of PCS.

olivetti

Products from the PCS range are available from Dixons • Currys Superstores • Harrods • John Lewis Partnership • Kaytech Superstores Makro Multitrade Centres (trade only) • PC World • Ryman • Wilding and selected dealers. Also through Action, Inmac and Best Buys catalogues.

For further information, please telephone 081-780 8160.

هكذا من الأصل

Mondeo from

Every Mondeo features: Steering wheel airbag • Multivalve engine • Front wheel drive • Power steering • Anti-submarine seats • Front seatbelt pre-tensioners and grabbers • Side impact bars • Reinforced bodyshell • Alarm and shielded locks

has arr

هكذا من الأصل

from Ford has arrived.

Clearly every Mondeo has beauty with inner strength. For more information and the location of your Ford dealer call free on 0800 111 222.

Everything we do is driven by you.

Ford

Sitiang highway. (AP)

South Africa orders mobilisation of troops to prevent more whites being killed

De Klerk proposes return of hanging

By Michael Hamlyn in Johannesburg and our Foreign Staff

While Pretoria calls out the army, the Goldstone commission has asked foreign countries to stop helping black extremists

PRESIDENT de Klerk said yesterday that he would order troops to areas where whites have been killed and ask parliament to consider resuming hangings.

He also urged the nation's black and white leaders to make halting political violence their priority so that progress could be made towards shifting from white rule to a multiracial government.

Recent attacks by blacks that killed four whites have raised tension and brought calls for a crackdown on black groups. Some white extremists have threatened revenge attacks.

Political violence last year derailed negotiations on ending white rule and the new wave of attacks came as black and white leaders held meetings aimed at restarting the multiparty talks.

The president also said in his speech to a special session of parliament that a ten-point plan would be implemented to combat crime and political violence. More troops would be called up and security measures increased.

Reacting to calls to resume executions, he said that parliament should debate whether to lift a moratorium on hangings that was declared three years ago. Black groups have long accused the government of reacting strongly to white deaths while ignoring chronic political violence that has killed thousands of blacks in recent years.

The president said that 18 members of the Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla), the armed wing of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, which is suspected in the recent attacks on whites, had been arrested in the previous 24 hours and more arrests were expected.

As he was speaking, Mr Justice Goldstone, who heads a commission of enquiry into violence, called on the international community to withhold all assistance from Apla.

In issuing a report of his commission's investigation into the liberation army's activities, the judge also called for international pressure to be put on the Pan Africanist Congress to stop condoning violence and also to find out from the government of Tanzania its response to allegations by the South African police and defence forces that an Apla base is maintained there.

Nuclear bomb, page 1



Mobile patrol: children on a school bus south of Johannesburg being guarded yesterday by a member of the security forces in the wake of attacks on whites. A woman, her son and another child were shot dead last week

Mandela appeal begins

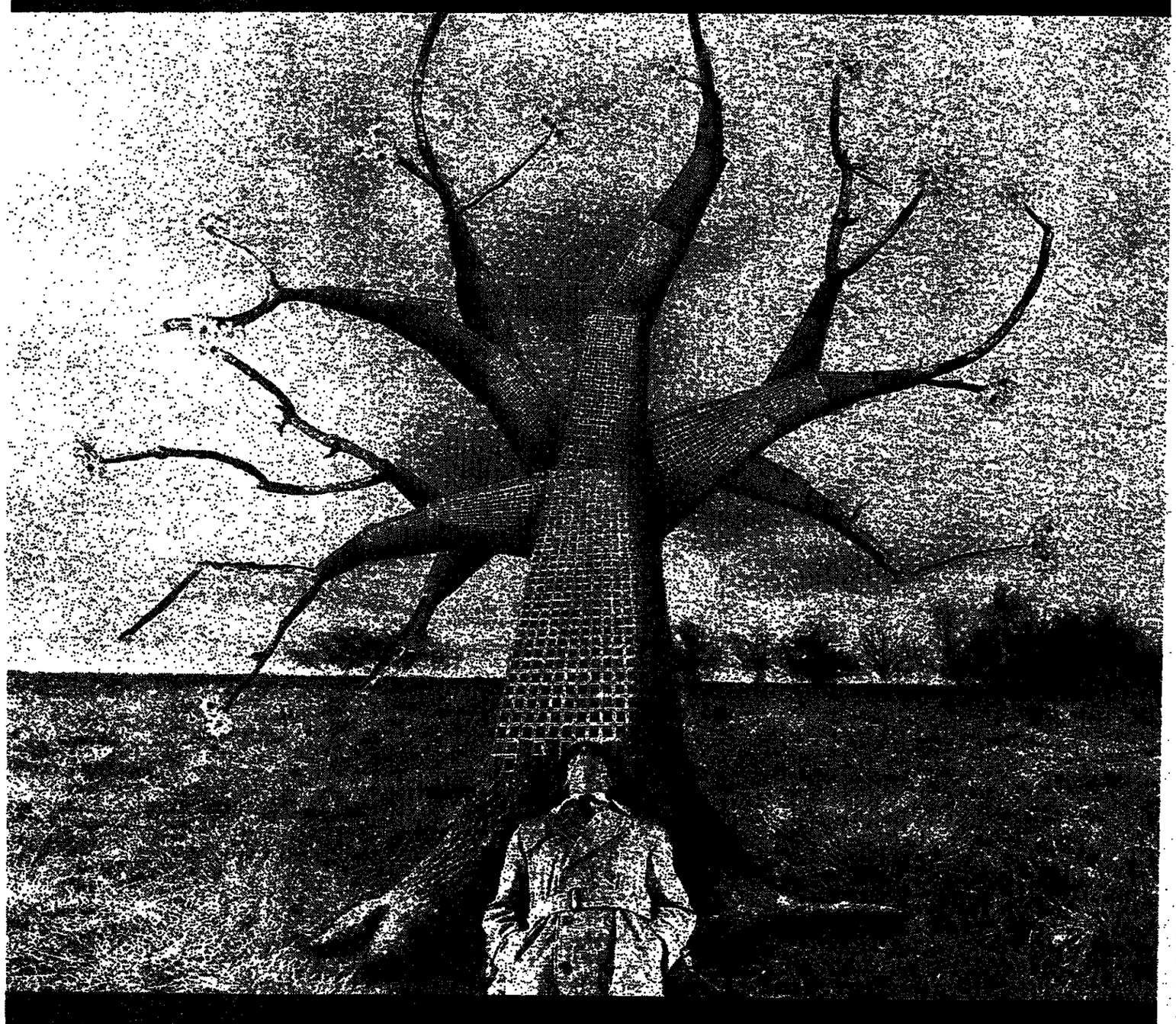
By Michael Hamlyn

WINNIE Mandela, the estranged wife of Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, yesterday began a last-ditch effort to stay out of prison. The supreme court in Bloemfontein began a three-day hearing of her appeal against the conviction and six-year sentence arising from the kidnap and assault of a 14-year-old boy, whose body was later found in an open field.

George Bizos, her counsel, argued that Mandela had not aligned herself with a campaign to oust a homosexual Methodist minister. He said that the trial judge had been wrong not to call the minister to give evidence.

The appeal is being heard before Mr Justice Corbett and four other judges. Also appealing were Xolisva Falati, who was also sentenced to six years' imprisonment, and John Morgan, who received a one-year jail sentence, which was suspended.

SHOULDN'T YOUR PENSION BE
WITH SOMEONE WHO...



...LOOKS AT A COMPANY'S POTENTIAL
RATHER THAN
JUST ITS BALANCE SHEET?

You expect, quite rightly, that money you've entrusted to a pension scheme is invested in successful, not unsuccessful, companies.

Generally though, the distinction between these two types of company is based on nothing more than the company's balance sheet tipping the scales either one way or the other.

Never mind the calibre, commitment and style of the management. Never mind the strategies and plans, the positive cash flow, the future long term profitability.

Never mind, in other words, the company's potential.

Which is why Norwich Union take a different approach. We take all of the above and more into account, basing our evaluation of a company, wherever possible, on a ten year economic cycle. It's a philosophy which has made us one of the top five investors in the UK, investing nearly £4 million every working day.

It's also helped us to pick up a prestigious industry award for pension fund management and attracted nearly one million pension customers.*

For more information, either fill in the coupon below or contact your local financial adviser.

You'll be provided with everything you need to assess our potential.

NORWICH UNION

PLEASE SEND ME FURTHER INFORMATION ON YOUR RANGE OF PENSION PLANS. (NO SALESMAN WILL CALL AS A RESULT OF THIS COUPON.) SEND TO: MARKETING DEPT, NORWICH UNION INSURANCE GROUP, FREEPOST, HERITAGE PARK, 55 ALBERT TERRACE ROAD, SHEFFIELD S6 2NT.

TITLE ..... SURNAME ..... FORENAME ..... ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE ..... NAME OF FINANCIAL ADVISER (IF ANY) .....

TC3

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY A GUIDE TO THE FUTURE

1993 MICROPAL INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE AWARDS (PENSION FUNDS 5 YEAR LARGE GROUP CATEGORY) RUNNERS UP

NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY IS A MEMBER OF LAUTRO

Peking to set up rival power base for Hong Kong

From Catherine Sampson in Peking

PEKING took the first step yesterday towards establishing a committee that many people in Hong Kong fear could become a shadow government, crippling the British administration in the years before 1997.

The Canton provincial delegation proposed a motion in parliament in Peking that a preliminary working committee should be set up now to prepare for the Chinese takeover of the colony.

Speculation about such a move deepened last week when Lu Ping, head of China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, said that China would prepare for 1997 without Britain. His comments came in reply to the decision by Chris Patten, the governor, to push on with democratic reforms in the colony.

According to the Basic Law, China's mini-constitution for Hong Kong after 1997, a preparatory committee should not be set up until 1996. The official news agency Xinhua, however, quoted one of the sponsors of the motion as saying that most parliamentary deputies from Hong Kong "consider the one-year preparatory period too short". The agency added that it was necessary to start preparations earlier than originally planned "in view of the grave situation, with the British side possibly clinging obstinately to its course and adopting a non-co-operative attitude".

China has accused Mr Patten of violating the Basic Law and therefore feels that it must be seen to stick to the letter of the law. So rather than alter the Basic Law to allow for setting up the preparatory committee early, the motion suggests setting up a "preliminary working committee for the preparatory committee".

Motions presented to China's parliament rarely come spontaneously from the delegations and this one is likely to have come from the top. Given the furiously anti-Patten tone of the parliamentary session so far, the motion is expected to pass with no resistance.

Yesterday's Xinhua report gave no details of exactly what this "preliminary working committee for the preparatory committee" might do, or indeed who might sit on it. There are fears in Hong Kong, however, that Peking could try to turn the committee into an alternative power base in the last four years of colonial rule. Peking has already said that it will disband the Legislative Council in 1997 because, according to Mr Patten's proposals, it will have a majority of democratically elected members.

Conceivably the committee could draw up alternative election proposals so that when China installs its own legislative council it looks just as Peking wants it to. The committee may also try to tell investors that if they want to do business beyond 1997 they must get the committee's approval first.

Many analysts say that in practical terms China would find it impossible to undermine the British administration completely in this way. It might be, however, that Peking believes it can carry it off. Or it may be just the latest threat in the worsening war of words.



Lu Ping preparing for 1997 without Britain

Hong Kong's delegates to the parliament in Peking were told yesterday by Jiang Zemin, the Communist party chief, that the Chinese army will not march in to claim Hong Kong in 1997. His remarks led to a surge in the territory's stock market.

China would stick to its "one country, two systems" policy, he added, allowing Hong Long to keep its capitalist way of life for 50 years after the handover. "If the system is workable, why should we abolish it?" he asked.

SECONDS IN FRONT

If it's performance you're after, then with 0-60 in 11.2 seconds from a unique lean-burn 1.6 litre engine, this has to be the car in front.

THE NEW CARINA E.
FROM £10,399†

THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

† INC. VAT BUT EXCLUSIVE OF DELIVERY CHARGE OF £370 (INC. VAT), NUMBER PLATES AND ROAD FUND LICENCE.

هكذا من الأصل

War hero turned peacemaker is elected Israeli president



Weizman: son's injury altered his outlook

FROM RICHARD BESTON IN JERUSALEM

EZER Weizman, a former RAF fighter pilot turned peacemaker and one of Israel's most charismatic and outspoken figures, was elected by the Knesset yesterday to be the country's seventh president. He takes over from President Herzog on May 13.

In a vote that had to be repeated because four extra ballots were cast in the first round, 66 MPs endorsed Mr Weizman, giving him a comfortable win over Dov Shilansky, the right-wing candidate, who received 53 votes. One member of the 120-seat chamber abstained.

The result was regarded as a victory for the coalition government of Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, and particularly for the left of his Labour party.

The president-elect, who helped to forge Israel's peace treaty with Egypt, has been an enthusiastic supporter of peacemaking with the Arabs and advocates opening negotiations with the outlawed Palestine Liberation Organisation and returning the Golan Heights to Syria.

Although most of his duties during his five-year term as head of state will be ceremonial, colleagues predict that Mr Weizman, known for his outrageous comments, one-liners and practical jokes, is likely to become the most influential president since Chaim Weizmann, his uncle, who was the Jewish state's first head of state.

■ Ezer Weizman will wield great influence in the mainly ceremonial post. His election signifies a victory for the Labour left

Born in 1924, Mr Weizman ran off to Egypt at the age of 18 to join the RAF. An avowed anglophile, he trained as a fighter pilot, served in India, and to this day has kept his black Spitfire in Israel. It is still flown at air shows. His wartime service in the RAF shaped the course of his new career. The highlight of his military career was the 1967 Six-Day war, when he devised the spectacular pre-empive strike that wiped out the Egyptian air force and ultimately secured Israel's lightning victory over the Arab armies.

He left the military to enter politics and came to prominence in 1977 when he masterminded the right-wing victory that removed the Labour party from power for the first time in Israel's history. His irreverent manner, however, earned him many enemies in politics.

While running Likud's election campaign, he refused to allow Yitzhak Shamir to go on television, insisting that he was "too ugly" and might "frighten children". He also intensified his rivalry with Mr Rabin when he disclosed that, on the eve of the 1967 war, the chief of staff had had a mental breakdown and Mr Weizman had had to take command for 24 hours.

Although known for his hawkish views, Mr Weizman softened his position during the peace talks with Egypt, when he developed a strong personal friendship with President Sadat. His conversion is also attributed to the pain he felt over his son, Saul, who never recovered from a severe head injury sustained during the war of attrition with Egypt in 1970. His conversion to the cause of peace led him to resign from the right-wing government in 1980 because of frustration over the slow pace of diplomacy. He eventually returned to politics, this time serving as a science minister for Labour in a national unity government with Likud. But he fell out with Mr Shamir, the prime minister, after it was disclosed that Mr Weizman had had secret contacts with Nabil Ramlawi, the PLO's representative in Geneva.

Although he refused to confirm or deny the allegations, he once remarked: "Nothing contributes more to defence than peace." A year ago, he resigned his seat in the Knesset.

American agents fly New York bomb suspect out of Egypt

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO AND BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

MAHMUD Abu-Halima, a leading suspect in last month's bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York, was whisked out of Egypt yesterday by United States federal agents and taken back to America for trial.

Federal officials say Mr Abu-Halima, 34, an Egyptian-born Brooklyn taxi driver, was arrested in Cairo. He is understood to have fought with the Mujahidin in Afghanisatn. According to some reports, he may have been in Egyptian custody for at least ten days. Although the American authorities have so far refused to release details of his arrest, his brother Muhammad told a news agency that he was arrested by Egyptian police on March 14 at the family's home in Alexandria.

Mr Abu-Halima was expected to face a federal court hearing on a sealed indictment as soon as he arrived in New York last night. According to federal investigators, he fled to Egypt with his German-born wife and four children immediately after the February 26 blast, possibly by way of South Africa or Germany. It is believed that his family has also been taken into custody.

Two other men, Muhammad Salameh and Nidal Ayyad, have already been charged in connection with the bombing. A third man, Ibraham Elgabrowny, has been charged with resisting arrest. Two weeks ago Mr Abu-Halima was named as the suspected ringleader of the group. His home in New Jersey was searched by the FBI last week.

ABC television reported yesterday that the FBI was seeking at least two other suspects in America. James Esposito, the special agent who heads the Newark, New Jersey, office of the FBI, confirmed that "the circle continues to narrow" around a nucleus of suspected bombers.

The cloak-and-dagger operation to spirit Mr Abu-Hamilma out of Egypt was confirmed by the Egyptian authorities only after the plane carrying him had taken off. His arrest has increased speculation that there was an Islamic conspiracy with Iranian connections behind the World Trade Centre blast. Along with the other men held, he is suspected of links with Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, the blind preacher who promotes a *jihad* (holy war) against the West from his temporary exile in America.

American reports have suggested that Mr Abu-Halima may once have been the shaikh's personal driver, although his brother has denied this. Former fighters with the Mujahidin have also been involved in the current wave of Islamic violence in Egypt.

Yesterday, to the embarrassment of the Cairo government, militant followers of Shaikh Abdel-Rahman staged anti-government demonstrations at prayers to mark the end of Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting. Tens of thousands of copies of a letter sent by him from America were circulated calling for the immediate overthrow of President Mubarak's administration.

Despite this provocation and earlier government boasts that the extremists were under control, security forces stood by as Islamic militants marched in Assiut, Manfalut and two other towns in upper Egypt. Preachers mourned militants shot in the government crackdown against the fundamentalists, which has already cost 43 lives this month, and heaped contempt on Mr Mubarak.



Paris calling: Pamela Harriman, the millionaire grand dame of Democratic fundraising, who is to be President Clinton's nominee as ambassador to France. Mrs Harriman, 73, a widow, was born in Britain, the daughter of the eleventh Lord Digby, but is a naturalised American citizen. "Her many years of dedicated service to the United States and her unceasing devotion to the cause of world peace are only two of the many qualifications that she will bring with her to Paris," Mr Clinton said. *(AP)*

Sweet and sour is transatlantic flavour of month

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND NICHOLAS WOOD

President Clinton may have forgiven John Major for the Tories' election aid to George Bush last year, but he certainly has not forgotten. Twice in the past week, and without any prompting, he has alluded publicly to that unfortunate episode.

It was the subject of one of his jokes at Washington's annual Radio and Television Correspondents' Association dinner last Thursday. During the presidential campaign, the Home Office had searched its files for information on rumours that Mr Clinton had applied for British citizenship to avoid Vietnam. "When I met John Major the other night, he slapped me on the shoulder and said: 'You know, you don't look anything like your passport photographs' ", Mr Clinton said.

There was no such levity in Mr Clinton's second allusion during Tuesday's press conference. The president was grasping for an analogy to explain his support for Boris Yeltsin as Russia's democratically elected leader, and his thoughts ran ahead of his tongue.

"Let's put it in a different context," he said. "We just had the prime minister of Great Britain here. And the US and Great Britain have historic ties and shared values. You expect me to work with the prime minister of Great Britain even if he is of a party that was openly supportive of my opponent in the last election."

It was a throwaway and apparently unpremeditated comment, little remarked on in yesterday's American press, but highly revealing nonetheless. It suggested that, despite all the official denials and protestations of friendship on both sides of the Atlantic, Mr Clinton was indeed angered by the Conservatives' conduct.

It suggested the president does not accept the British government's explanation that the Home Office was seeking merely to debunk the rumours and that Tory officials who advised the Bush camp were acting strictly as individuals without official sanction.

Meanwhile, in London yesterday, Tory officials shrugged off Mr Clinton's comments. Renewing their efforts to distance Mr Major from the assistance given to the Republican campaign by two senior Central Office aides — Sir John Lacy and Mark Fullbrook — the officials said that the two men went in their own time and were not sent by the party.

"It is the hoariest of hoary old chestnuts," one official said, pointing to the good working relationship established between the two leaders on Mr Major's visit to Washington last month. Downing Street added that Mr Major had been unaware of the Central Office involvement at the time.

Tory officials said that Mr Clinton had been "struggling for analogy" to press home his point that his job was to work with world leaders irrespective of their political complexion. "Nothing detracts from the success of the prime minister's trip when they established a very good working relationship," one aide said.

Mr Major and Mr Clinton spoke at length about Russia on the telephone yesterday. "What matters is their very close working relationship," a British embassy official in Washington said. "People who do not get on with one another do not talk at great length on the phone about what is going on in the world."

The Tories' support for Mr Bush, the official added, "is having and has had absolutely no effect on the working relationship".

Both those comments and Mr Clinton's vividly illustrate, however, how the so-called "special relationship" has changed since Mr Clinton replaced Mr Bush in the White House. It has always been driven primarily by pragmatism and mutual self-interest. But when the Republicans were in power, it was also infused by a genuine amity.

Another view came this week in a speech to the Royal Institute of International Affairs by Raymond Seitz, the US ambassador to London. He said that Britain should live up to what remained of its "special relationship" with the United States.

Mr Seitz said the three traditional immutables of "geography, language and attitude" were no longer enough to sustain the Anglo-American relationship of the past half-century. Both countries should work harder to define common strategic interests, but the direction of Britain itself was key to the rapport between the two nations.

"There is, for example, the currently fashionable proposition of Britain as a victim," the ambassador said. "Afflicted with an inoperable disease, the image goes. Britain checks into a political retirement home to see out its twilight years with gentility and grace and one last glass of port. This is a matter of status, and perhaps status, both domestic and international, has always played too strong a role in Britain."

Jail ruling on Mendes killer stays

Brasilia: Brazil's supreme court reinstated a 19-year prison sentence against Darly Alves for the murder of Chico Mendes, the environmentalist. Alves and his son Darcy, 23, broke out of jail last month.

Mendes, leader of Indian rubber-tappers, was killed in 1988. Darly Alves was convicted in 1990 of ordering the killing. Darcy confessed to committing the crime. A court confirmed the son's conviction but overturned the father's for lack of evidence. That ruling was set aside yesterday. *(AFP)*

'Semi-war' ends

Tokyo: In a move that may help to ease tension on the Korean peninsula, North Korea ended the state of "semi-war" it declared last week during South Korea's military exercises with America. But it still rejects nuclear controls. *(AP)*

Brief truce

New York: Calling a brief truce in the biter child-custody battle between Woody Allen, the film-maker, and Mia Farrow, his former lover, the Manhattan supreme court judge in the case postponed further testimony until today.

Coalition plan

Nairobi: Etienne Tshisekedi, the prime minister of Zaire appointed by the parliament but not recognised by President Mobutu, is trying to put together a coalition government including three politicians loyal to the president.

Volcano erupts

Legaspi: The Mayon volcano on the Philippines island of Luzon erupted 26 times, blasting red-hot ash up to four miles into the air and forcing villagers to flee. *(Reuter)*

Snow kills 40

Kabul: At least 40 people were confirmed dead after avalanches in the Hindu Kush mountains of Afghanistan buried vehicles on the main Salang highway. *(AP)*

Federal attorneys are told to resign

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

JANET Reno, in one of her first decisions as US attorney-general, aroused controversy by asking for the resignation of all federal attorneys, including one who is only 30 days away from completing a fraud investigation into one of the most senior members of the Democratic party.

The federal attorney for Washington, Jay Stephens, who was appointed by the Bush administration, insinuated that the surprisingly swift decision by Ms Reno could disrupt an investigation into Dan Rostenkowski, the powerful Democrat chairman of the House ways and means committee, and President Clinton's staunchest and most important ally in Congress.

The investigation originally focused on whether Mr Rostenkowski was linked to a financial scandal involving the Congressional Post Office, and it later widened to encompass virtually all aspects of his financial dealings.

However, Mr Stephens stopped short of accusing Ms Reno that his replacement at this crucial stage amounted to a direct attempt to interfere with the investigation in order to protect Mr Rostenkowski. Ms Reno insisted there was "no linkage whatsoever" and nobody had been singled out.

While the appointment of new attorneys is common practice after a change in administration, Ms Reno's move is unusually quick. The majority of the 93 attorneys had been expecting to serve well into the year, and legal experts had thought that the priority for the new attorney-general would have been to appoint her own management team at the justice department or to replace the federal judges.

The department's assertion that the decision was taken with the White House has added spice to a Rostenkowski conspiracy theory. The possibility of an indictment causes great concern among Democrat leaders and in the White House, not least because under the party's own rules Mr Rostenkowski would then have to step down from the chairmanship of the ways and means committee.

Gays attack segregation in forces

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton will consider restricting his plan to allow homosexuals in the American armed forces by allowing the Pentagon to continue banning them from certain jobs.

Asked if he would support segregation for homosexuals in the military, he said: "I wouldn't rule that out, depending on what the grounds and arguments were."

Mr Clinton appears to have acquired a greater understanding of the objections to sharing cramped living conditions with homosexuals during a visit to an aircraft carrier two weeks ago. He was shown quarters measuring 8ft by 12ft where 12 sailors sleep in triple-tier bunks.

The idea of separate jobs for homosexuals provoked furious criticism yesterday from both sides of the argument. Gay rights groups accused the president of trying to create a new level of discrimination that would bar homosexuals from the close proximity of conditions at sea or in foxholes, and condemn them to an unequal career path that would never lead to promotion to the highest ranks.

The ban's supporters gave a warning of morale problems among heterosexuals if homosexuals were allowed to join up with a guarantee of easy, non-combat postings. At the Pentagon, officers studying ways to recruit homosexuals were caught unawares. They had never considered segregation.

Mr Clinton's promise to end the Pentagon's prohibition on homosexuals continues to be one of the toughest problems on his agenda. Antagonism has been expressed at all levels within the armed forces. Before Mr Clinton landed on the aircraft carrier he was openly mocked by sailors, and the skipper took the unusual precaution of reminding his crew that, whether they voted for Mr Clinton or not, they must show him their support when he came on board.

Policeman insists Rodney King was 'high' on drug

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE highest-ranking Los Angeles police officer charged with violating Rodney King's civil rights has testified that he was "100 per cent convinced" that the black motorist was high on the hallucinogenic drug PCP when he was stopped and beaten by four police officers in March 1991.

Testifying in his own defence in the second trial of the four white police officers, Sergeant Stacey Koon said on Tuesday that when Mr King was stopped he showed every sign of being under the influence of PCP, a drug that can induce fits of extreme violence and increased strength. Sgt Koon said Mr King was sweating, incoherent and gazing around blankly when he was stopped for speeding after a chase. "The only drug I know that raises the body temperature to cause sweating is PCP," the policeman said.

Tests revealed no traces of the drug in Mr King's bloodstream after his arrest, but the officers maintain that his behaviour was sufficiently bizarre and threatening to warrant treating him as a drug suspect. Sgt Koon said that Mr King's glassy stare was a familiar one. "I had seen it many times before in drug suspects."

Sgt Koon said that when he arrived at the scene Mr King was standing up and waving wildly at a police helicopter overhead. When he refused to lie on the ground, Sgt Koon said he ordered four officers to hold him down and handcuff him, but the muscular Mr King shrugged them off.

"He had thrown approximately 800lb of officer off him," Sgt Koon said. The senior officer at the incident emphatically denied that he had used racial slurs in the course of the arrest.

Sgt Koon said that, after Mr King threw off the officers, two electric darts were fired to subdue him, but the only apparent effect was to cause him to bellow — a noise which Sgt Koon imitated, visibly startling the jurors. "I could see his body convulse. Mr King gave out a loud grimace or yell." When Mr King still appeared aggressive, Sgt Koon said he ordered the beating.

The retrial is now past halfway and Los Angeles is steeling itself for a possible repeat of the deadly riots that erupted after the officers' acquittal last April.

The authorities are going to extraordinary lengths to contain any trouble. Willie Williams, the city's new black police chief, has promised to have 7,000 of his 7,700 men on the streets when the trial ends and has asked the judge to delay the verdict until his force is in position.



King: behaviour was bizarre, court is told

The Clinton administration is planning to give the city up to $1.7 million (£1.15 million) to pay for additional law enforcement. The city council has approved $1 million for new riot gear. For months the police have been undergoing special civil disorder training that has included mob dispersal, victim rescues and the use of rubber bullets, pepper gas and other non-lethal forms of crowd control.

Gun sales in California jumped to a record 65,923 in December as citizens prepared to defend themselves. Sales of ammunition have soared. Shopkeepers, particularly Koreans who were prime targets, have invested in AK47s and bulletproof vests, and armed vigilantes are reportedly patrolling Koreatown at night. Pawnshops have been turned into mini-fortresses.

INCHES IN FRONT

If it's interior space you're after, then with more room than any other car in its class, this has to be the car in front.

THE NEW CARINA E. FROM £10,399†

THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

† INC. VAT BUT EXCLUSIVE OF DELIVERY CHARGE OF £370 INC. VAT), NUMBER PLATES AND ROAD FUND LICENCE

When gun law comes to school

As Britain recoils in horror from a classroom rape, **Margot Norman** examines the lesson from America

The first rape victim I ever met was an American high school teacher, a vivacious, 5ft-nothing Jewish dynamo called Ruth who taught history in Harlem. Like the teacher who was allegedly raped by a 13-year-old pupil at a run-down south London comprehensive last Friday, Ruth had kept her assailant behind after school as a punishment. He was a keen basketball player, 14 at the time of the attack and over 6ft tall. This rape occurred 15 years ago, and I remember being chilled by her account of it for three reasons.

First, it was not unprecedented, as this English case is said to be: on the contrary, rape and battery were by then already regarded as professional hazards by inner-city teachers. Second, the boy was not immediately expelled: the school had to go on teaching him until Ruth's allegations had been investigated by due process of law, which took forever.

Third, the court case was unspeakably humiliating and, although the boy was convicted, she was left half wondering whether she had, indeed, provoked him, as the prosecution alleged, by her habit of wiggling when she walked.

The school was ticked off for allowing a woman teacher to be alone and unprotected with a pupil after school hours.

Fifteen years on, American city high schools have established such a reputation for violence that younger versions of Ruth would not even consider teaching in one. Would you rush to apply for a job at Jefferson High, in Brooklyn, a grim prison with barred windows and steel doors where half the pupils miss the first class of the day because they are queuing through banks of metal detectors at the entrance and where, despite this precaution, 70 pupils were killed, shot, stabbed or crippled between 1988 and 1992?

So much for metal detectors, with which a quarter of large urban high schools in America are now equipped. I am not suggesting that the south London comprehensive in question is shaping up to become another Jefferson High, but I cannot see any compelling reasons why, given time and the psychological ratchet effect of a gradually rising "acceptable level" of disorder, this should not be the case.

I remember a rumpus at the same school back in 1985, when a 14-year-old gave his housemaster a black eye and the governors thwarted the headmaster's decision to expel the boy. Members of staff who belonged to the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers walked out and refused to come back until the governors changed their minds.

The NAS/UWT claims there are now 16,000 cases a year of teachers being attacked by pupils or members of their families. Heads, governors and local officials who say they are exaggerating should be disregarded. The closer you are to the action, the more of it you see. Goodness knows what the figures must be for assaults on pupils. An American congressional study discovered 22 times more violent incidents when they questioned pupils than when they questioned their head teachers, who knew nothing of most of these incidents and had a strong interest in underplaying the rest.

> The failure to expel is the chief reason why schools are now places where teachers submit to the pupils rather than the other way around

There, as here, heads and officials balk at expelling troublemakers because of concern for the school's reputation, fear of inflaming the local community, fear of being sued for infringing the troublemaker's legal rights and the sheer difficulty of finding somewhere to send these thugs for the education the state is legally bound to provide.

In a horrifying dossier on violence in American schools produced by the *Congressional Quarterly Researcher* last September, the director of Rutgers University Institute for Criminological Research, Jackson Toby, says the failure to expel is the chief reason why schools are now places where teachers submit to the pupils because they fear them rather than the other way around.

In America, as here, the only schools that can insist on high standards of behaviour are those that, like the church schools, can kick out anyone who does not meet those standards.

American statistics are appalling: the New York City school security force, comprising 2,600 officers armed and unarmed, is the sixth largest police force in the United States, and one high-school student in five now admits to carrying a weapon. Knives and razors are preferred, followed by clubs and then guns. Among black pupils the proportion of carrying a weapon is 39 per cent, according to one large study. Student assaults on teachers in Detroit rose 900 per cent between 1985 and 1990, and 4 per cent of Illinois high school children said they had been shot — at school.

At the infamous Jefferson High, half the pupils can expect a "puncture wound" while at school, and there is a special "grieving room" for the friends of those whose punctures prove terminal.

British schoolchildren also carry knives, clubs and, occasionally guns, and they also mug old ladies, sell drugs and join vicious teenage gangs. If metal detectors and security officers are not the answer, can America tell us what is?

Expulsions, certainly, and the tough gun laws which, mercifully, we already have. But there is another solution preferred by an increasing number of experts — nursery schools which teach young children how to defuse arguments without resorting to violence.

This makes sense to gloomy Hobbesians like me, as it does to any police officer who has heard a schoolboy say "I just pulled the trigger/reached for my knife" by way of explaining how a squabble over a ball led to bloodshed. The child had never learnt other strategies for getting his ball back.

The famous Perry preschool programme in Michigan shadowed 123 poor black children over 20 years: half were sent to nursery school, and their mothers received regular visits from nurses who advised them how to bring up their children. At 20 those children were so much more employable, and less criminal than the others that it was reckoned the pre-school programme returned between three and six dollars for every dollar invested.

Beleaguered staff at the school where the alleged rape took place, and dozens like it, might appreciate having pupils whom somebody has at least tried to socialise while they were still young enough to listen. They might also appreciate being able to expel those who don't keep their rules. Only then is it worth setting those standards which, by insisting on the smaller decencies that make school life not only tolerable but pleasant, ensure that gross outrages remain unthinkable.

Sheridan Morley looks at the last flickers of an expatriate empire that once ruled Hollywood

The British are going

These things are never over until the thin lady takes to the stage and sings her director's praises, and at the age of 65 old uncle Oscar could still be about to spring a few surprises on his favourite nephews and nieces.

True, the auguries are now all in place for Emma Thompson to bring home the best-actress Academy Award on Monday night: Bafta, Golden Globe, this week's cover of *Time* magazine and odds-on favourite with William Hill at two to one. But her closest rival, Susan Sarandon (at 5 to 2) can offer a triple sentimental whammy of her own; she's American, in a fatal illness picture (*Lorenzo's Oil*), and should have won in a previous year for *Thelma and Louise*.

Asked for a forecast, Thompson would only predict her own likely medical state: "I will probably have a frothing fit, and have to be flown home in a crate."

But consider that "flown home" for a moment: home for Oscar-winning British actresses used, once upon a time, to be Hollywood itself. Not any longer. Hollywood is now the place where you stop over to collect a statue, not to make a life. Thompson is already way beyond the *Howards End* that may make her a winner; she has three more films in the can (*Remains of the Day*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Impromptu*) none of them Hollywood pictures by any stretch of the movie imagination, and then there are, of course, Renaissance stage plans with her co-founding husband Kenneth Branagh.

It was not ever thus: although Vivien Leigh, the first British best-actress winner back in 1939 for *Gone With The Wind*, did set the precedent by returning swiftly to wartime London and the Old Vic, such later British or British Empire-born winners as Joan Fontaine, her sister Olivia de Havilland, Greer Garson, Elizabeth Taylor, and Julie Andrews were expected to take up residence in the Hollywood hills alongside their statues.

It was only in the late 1960s, with the coming of such winners as Julie Christie, Maggie Smith, and Glenda Jackson (the last best-actress victor from here and all of 20 years ago, unless you count Jessica Tandy for *Driving Miss Daisy* in 1989, a very long-time American resident but, in fact, born in England) that it was possible to retain overseas residence, and by then of course the last empire had already collapsed.



UNIVERSAL PICTORIAL PRESS AND AGENCY LTD

Going, going: Emma Thompson is expected to bring home an Academy Award — and then head for home

It was in that Jackson-winning year of 1983, the one after Colin Welland had made his infamous "British are coming" speech in the tracks of *Chariots Of Fire*, that the Hollywood Raj folded the last of its tents and packed for home. For exactly half a century, British actors and actresses had colonised the Hollywood hills as surely and successfully as their parents had colonised India and Africa and Australia.

They arrived in the early 1930s, an army of expert settlers drawn by the coming of talking pictures at a time when many local silent-film stars were having trouble mastering basic English. Led by C. Aubrey Smith, Ronald Colman, David Niven, and my grandmother Gladys Cooper, they formed cricket clubs and polo teams before arranging afternoon teas on sun-dappled lawns to which their American studio-chief employers would only very occasionally be invited. "Hollywood is a chain gang," said Clive Brook in 1933, "and we lose the will to escape: the links of our chains are forged not of cruelties but of luxuries — we are pelted with orchids and roses, we are overpaid and underworked." Or as Sir Cedric Hardwicke put it a year later: "God felt sorry for actors, so he gave us a place in the sun and a swimming pool: all we really had to sacrifice was our talent."

But by 1983 it was all over: at the end of February that year, for the first time in history, a reigning British monarch landed in Hollywood. Sadly however, by the time Queen Elizabeth arrived for her royal tour, most of her loyal Hollywood subjects had died, retired, gone home or into television soap-operas, or simply given up the acting business altogether to sell second-hand Rolls-Royces.

True, there were a few actors left for the state banquets, but somehow they were no longer recognisably the Hollywood British: Julie Andrews was appearing in a transvestite musical called *Victor/Victoria*, while Michael Caine would at best have been employed by Sir Aubrey Smith as an under-gardener.

Her Majesty arrived to find Dudley Moore and Sir John Gielgud keeping the flag flying in *Arthur*, but symbolically it was Moore who was now the master and Gielgud the valet. Her royal visit also came sandwiched between two of the most successful Oscar ceremonies the British had ever known: in 1982 they took home four major statues for *Chariots Of Fire* and in 1983 twice that many went to *Gandhi* in the name of world peace. Yet neither film had been made within five thousand miles of California, and neither had employed any of the surviving Hollywood British.

All was not totally lost, however: Her Majesty arrived in torrential rain to the news that Greer Garson was planning an (unrealised) remake of *Mrs Minivier*, and she at least was still in residence there, unlike James Mason and several others who had to be flown in specially from Switzerland.

But the last of the celluloid Raj did manage to occupy at least one top table: Joan Collins was there from *Dynasty*, Jean Marsh from *Upstairs Downstairs*, Samantha Eggar, Dudley Moore, Michael York and Michael Caine. Some of the other guests may have looked as if they had risen especially from the grave for the occasion, but that, on February 28, 1983, was about the extent of the Hollywood British.

Emma Thompson may well win a statue on Monday night; she will not alas win us back an empire, not even the one in Leicester Square.

OFFER MUST END 16th APRIL 1993

Walk on to our stand at the Ideal Home Exhibition and walk off with a 25%* discount.

If you're wondering what to do about your bills next year once VAT is levied on gas, oil and electricity, we have the answer. Everest double glazing.

Everest double glazing with Pilkington K Glass is so efficient it will slash your fuel bills by 30% more than ordinary double glazing and 70% more than single glazing.

Using the latest technology developed by Pilkington, all Everest double glazing has a special layer which reflects heat back into your home.

It also converts the sun's rays into heat – even on dull days.

And yet it costs much the same as ordinary double glazing.

SAVE UP TO 25% OFF

In fact, if you place your order before 16th April 1993, you can save up to 25%*.

So, come along to our stand and take a look at the range of attractive designs we have. We're more than pleased to answer any question you may have and if you're interested we can arrange for you to try to receive a free quotation – without any obligation, or course. We look forward to welcoming you at our stand number 28.

If you can't make it to the exhibition, don't worry, we'll still give you up to 25%* off when you phone or send off the coupon below.

Everest, FREEPOST, Cuffley, Hertfordshire EN6 4YA.

* Off list price based on average order value. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer

Call Free 0800 010123 Please quote reference number LON4

I am interested in: Replacement windows ☐ Patio Doors ☐ Entrance Doors ☐ Porches ☐ Conservatories ☐ Secondary windows ☐ Everest Roofline (UPVC-U Cladding, Fascia, Bargeboards, Soffits and Guttering) ☐ Yes I am interested in Everest's finance plans ☐

Name

Address

Postcode

Home Tel No

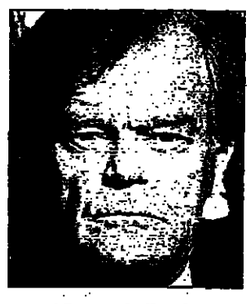
Everest FREEPOST Cuffley, Herts EN6 4YA.

OFFER MUST END 16th APRIL 1993

Everest FIT THE BEST

How the Civil Service blocks change

Alan Clark (right) on ways the Whitehall machine can make life a misery for the ministers



No one who has not served in government can properly appreciate the way in which a minister's thought, movement and initiative are subject to the oppressive surveillance of Whitehall.

Each day begins with the scrutiny of a selective digest of the national press where every critical mention of departmental persons or policy is highlighted. Mini-conferences are promptly held to discuss how these various charges and criticisms can be countered. Invariably this throws additional load on an already horrendously congested diary.

Then there are the visits to outlying, or perhaps even foreign, parts. These are set up partly to keep the wretched politician busy to the point of exhaustion. On top of this come all the demands and duties relating to the House of Commons.

It is thus small wonder that ministers become so fatigued and bewildered that they are quite ready to first swallow, then regurgitate the policy Line to Take, itself written by officials. And hardly ever question its assumptions, still less its conclusions — or its literacy.

And if a minister should make so bold as to do this, or suggest even the slightest variation in posture or style, he will be told that it was all settled in O(D) or in L, or whatever cabinet committee was relevant one, two, five, eight years earlier.

Whether it's shutting a mine, or helping a pensioner keep warm, once the fuss rises above a certain pitch you have a feeling that the government will comply. I am not especially critical of this technique. Certainly over the short term it offers as good a prospect as any of getting re-elected. But over the longer haul it distorts fiscal patterns, and diminishes respect (whatever that may be worth).

More serious is when these considerations are consolidated into legislation. A good example presently offers itself in the shape of the Criminal Justice Act, a measure drafted purely for the convenience and, with its centralising provisions, the aggrandisement, of the Home Office.

The one thing which Home Office officials dread above all else is a prison riot. It has become accepted that the best way of avoiding these crises — with all the attendant tedium of an emergency statement in the House, the threat of a judicial enquiry, and so forth — is to reduce the size of the prison population.

Officials have deftly come up with an act that makes it almost impossible for the bench, in over half the cases that come before it, to award a custodial sentence. Predictably, first the junior ranks of the judiciary, now the Lord Chief Justice, have protested bitterly at the impossible situation in which they find themselves.

Of course the classic example of the dominion which civil servants exercise over ministers is to be found in the EC. I never had an EC meeting folder that weighed less than three kilos, and all to be read in the time it takes to fly to Brussels. So it is hardly surprising that the exhausted and befuddled ministers find it less trouble to follow the bidding of the bureaucrats.

It is quite extraordinary how the pursuit of British interests, in the Palmerstonian sense, is a concept that the Foreign Office simply do not understand; or to which, if they do turn their minds, they regard as disreputable.

During my period as a minister — particularly as minister for trade — I travelled very widely. I stayed at 23 of our embassies abroad. And at every one of them I asked the same question of the incumbent: "How do you see your duties here? What is your role?" Not one said "to nurture and advance the interests of the UK and its citizens".

Guile, menace and cajolery — these should be the tools of the diplomat. Wistful nostalgia for being the most popular boy at a public school simply means that, however polite may be the guests who come to your receptions, you lose.

At present I can detect no strategic vision whatever. There are a few tactical precepts — of which the desire not to be "isolated" on any issue is probably the most damaging.

But how much thought is being given to the fundamentals? How far, and under what headings, do we federate? When, and on what subjects, do we want to rig the Commission? What is the probable alignment of member states on issues in the future that will affect our own strategy?

And there are wider issues to which, I'll warrant, no thought has been given at all. For example: the present geographic shape of the Community is illogical. It was dictated by the military realities of the last 40 years and in particular the line of the iron curtain. Some countries, Greece being the most obvious example, as well as being presently the most parasitic and tendentious, were hustled in to prevent them "going communist".

What is so disastrous about a two-tier, or two-speed Europe? Would not a more natural core be the nucleus of the old Hanseatic League, Britain, the Low Countries, Germany, Scandinavia and the Baltic?

At a time when even a lunch date can be depicted as sedition I recognise that the mildest criticism runs the risk of being described as the launching of a "savage attack". But I must say that the present administration exhibits many of the signs of a group that does not often take a very long view.

●*This is extracted from the author's Chatham House lecture.*

MILES IN FRONT

If it's outstanding fuel economy you're after, then with 57.6 mpg* from a unique lean-burn 1.6 litre engine, this has to be the car in front.

THE NEW CARINA E. FROM £10,399†

THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

† INC. VAT BUT EXCLUSIVE OF DELIVERY CHARGE OF £370 INC. VAT), NUMBER PLATES AND ROAD FUND LICENCE. * OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION CARINA E XI 1.6 (MAN.) 4 DOOR: MPG (LITRES/100KM) URBAN CYCLE 35.3 (8.0) CONSTANT 56 MPH 57.6 (4.9) CONSTANT 75 MPH 42.3 (6.7)

A strain on the system



Toxic shock syndrome in one form or another has been described for generations. It achieved fame only after seven cases of it were described in 1958; the syndrome was formally defined and named in 1980. The exact number of cases is unknown but the death-rate is likely to be under 50 a year.

Toxic shock syndrome is a severe reaction to toxins produced by infection with the type of the bacterium Staphylococcus aureus which produces toxin 1. The syndrome consists of faintness, shock, diarrhoea, a high fever and a red rash which later peels, not unlike the scarlet fever rash. In severe cases multi-organ failure, in particular respiratory, kidney and liver failure, may ensue.

In the early 1980s, the majority of cases were associated with menstruation and with the wearing of a particular type of tampon. But since this tampon was withdrawn and all tampon boxes have carried warnings that tampons should be changed every four to six hours, the number of cases attributable to menstruation has dropped. Even now, however, half the cases of toxic shock syndrome are still associated with menstruation, the others with abscesses, vaginal infections, nasal packing or surgical incisions.

The *BMJ* has recently reported the case of a young Devon girl who became infected with Staphylococcus aureus after having a mole removed by her GP. Within six hours she had collapsed with all the signs of the toxic shock syndrome and later died. The message broadcast by the *BMJ* is that doctors should remember that diarrhoea is not necessarily always due to gastro-intestinal infections.

Of rat-borne diseases, toxic shock and breast cancer

Bring on the Pied Piper

ROBERT Browning, the poet, admitted to a fear of rats and his couplet "Anything like the sound of a rat makes my heart go pit-a-pat!" does not do much credit either to his poetry or his courage. Pre-war farm workers carefully laid out for inspection all the rats they, and their dogs, killed after corn was thrashed and cheerfully ignored the rat-borne diseases to which agricultural workers are prey.

Those, however, who live without binder twine tied around their trouser legs, but with all the comforts of modern life, have sympathy with Browning and think of rats as exemplifying the powers of darkness, decay and disease. The advent of hanta fever, another rat-borne disease, in Somerset, is only the latest example of a long list of diseases spread by them.

Black rats we learnt at school were responsible for the plague. Now in adult life *The Archers* constantly reminds its listeners of the dangers of Weil's disease (leptospirosis), the severe kidney and liver infection spread by contact with rat's urine to farm workers and sewage workers, and those whose leisure activities expose them to slow-running water. A bite from a rat has a good chance of infecting the victim with rat-bite fever, which can also be transmitted by drinking rat-contaminated food or drink. Although rat-bite fever, also known as Haverhill fever, is named after the American rather than the Suffolk town, it is an equally troublesome disease in Britain, as 130 children infected at an English boarding school in 1983 can vouchsafe.

The number of rat-borne diseases throughout the world is legion. They range from Rocky Mountain Spotted fever to the deadly lassa viruses in Africa. The hanta viruses take their name from the Hantaan river in South Korea. In China and Korea the virus is particularly virulent and is a comparatively frequent cause of acute kidney failure. In Korea there is a 20 per cent mortality in those who catch the virus. The hanta viruses in one form or another are also found in Japan, Russia and the Balkans. In Scandinavia, the local hanta virus gives rise to a comparatively mild form of the disease, nephropathia epidemica.



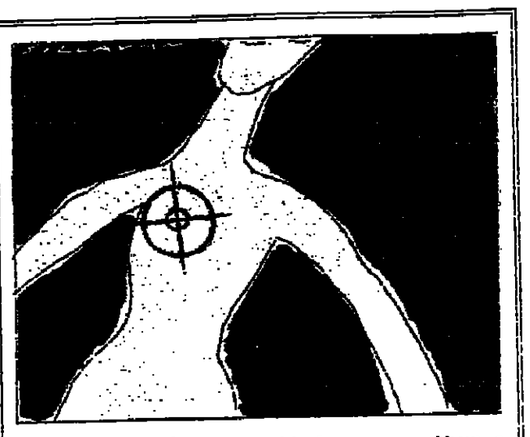
MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The Somerset hanta strain also seems to be a mild variant of the virus but has become surprisingly well established quickly. The magazine *General Practitioner* reports that although the first case of the disease in Britain was only recognised in 1985, 50 out of 830 blood donors who were tested for its antibodies in Somerset were found to be positive, showing that they had at some time in the past been infected.

When questioned, those who had had the disease could remember only a transient flu-like illness. The medical authorities in Taunton have investigated 30 severe British cases. Fever, aching limbs and swollen joints, particularly the hands, feet, wrists and ankles were the most common symptoms, but 6 per cent also had conjunctivitis, inflamed eyes. In some sufferers, there was laboratory evidence of the kidneys having been affected.

The hanta viruses are spread not only by rats but by voles and mice too. As with Weil's disease, contact with rats' urine or excreta is responsible. The hanta virus may well prove to be a potential nuisance to farmers and sewage workers, a suitable disease in fact for the Grundy family at Grange Farm, Ambridge. Dr John Pether, the director of the Taunton public health laboratory, says that it will not be an easy disease for doctors to diagnose.



High-risk families

WOMEN who have a family history of breast cancer are often advised to have regular breast screening. They and their doctor frequently resort to mammography at an earlier age than they would consider desirable in other patients.

However, a report in the *British Journal of Cancer* by doctors from Manchester Christie Hospital has shown that a third of women seriously underestimated the risk posed by having a close relative with the disease. *General Practitioner* magazine recently quoted the true figures. The risk for women without a family history is one in 12, if a patient's mother developed cancer over the age of 50 the risk is one in six, if it was diagnosed in her mother under 50, one in four, if both grandmother and mother were affected the odds fall to one in two.

A desire to minimise the risk is a natural response to fear, but the encouraging news is that the earlier a diagnosis is made the better the outlook. Doctors should perhaps stress to their patients that although having a risk, for instance, of one in six means that very careful supervision is needed, there are five chances out of six that the disease will never affect them.

Wake up, the danger's real

Fatigue causes as much death and injury as drinking.

Why, asks **Ian Robertson**, is so little done to counter it?



Price of fatigue: the Clapham rail disaster, indirectly caused by a desperately overworked technician, claimed 35 lives

There is a danger on our roads which rivals that of drunkenness: it kills thousands of people worldwide each year, yet we are as unaware of it as we once were of drink drivers. It is fatigue.

Martin Moore-Ede argues in his book *The 24-Hour Society* (Piatkus, £18) that modern technology has outstripped the biological capacities of human beings to sustain alertness enough to control the machines it has given us.

The next time you slip off your shoes for the in-flight movie of your transatlantic flight, consider the following report given by a commercial pilot at the 1990 Aerospace Medical Association Conference: an airliner crosses the Pacific towards Seattle. It fails to follow the directions of flight controllers to descend towards the runway. The plane passes over Seattle International Airport and makes its way into Canadian airspace, unresponsive to the entreaties of the by-now frantic air-traffic personnel. Interceptor jets from the Royal Canadian Airforce are scrambled, but fail to make radio contact. Finally, they buzz the airliner, flashing blinding lights into the cockpit. The crew wake up, turn the plane, fly it back to Seattle.

Unlike airliners, cars and lorries do not have autopilots to support a human brain whose alertness waxes and wanes like the tide over a 24-hour period. Lethal trucks, travelling at 70mph, bearing hundreds of tons of freight, scream down our motorways each day, and some of them are driven by people whose minds are so drugged by drowsiness they might as well be drunk.

I have nodded off briefly at the wheel of a car, and so have a third of all motorists, a substantial minority of whom are now dead. Two separate surveys in the US have estimated that about 50 per cent of motorway fatalities are caused by drivers falling asleep, however briefly. Yet where are the mass media campaigns about fatigue and driving to match those for drink and driving?

Dr Moore-Ede of Harvard University argues that the circadian rhythms which depress our mental and physical functions for seven or eight hours every day have an impact on every area of life where powerful machines are placed under the control of fallible humans. For example, 35 people died at Clapham Junction on December 12, 1988 when the 6.14 Poole to Waterloo train ran into the 7.18 from Basingstoke to Waterloo. The Basingstoke train had stopped at a flickering and ambiguous signal. That signal had been wired up incorrectly by a British Rail technician who had taken one day off work in 13 weeks.

Why are humans so poor at staying alert throughout the day? Sleeping for as long as seven or eight hours at a stretch is uncommon in the animal kingdom. One theory is that human beings evolved this tendency to keep out of the way of nocturnal predators. Whatever the reason, however, our brains have evolved a tiny cluster of cells called the suprachiasmic nucleus whose job it is to induce mini-hibernation for eight hours or so each day.

This clock runs on a 25-hour cycle, but is re-set each day by the morning light. Part of the awfulness of flying from America to Britain overnight is that you arrive home when your circadian cycle is at its nadir — 9am UK time, but 4am body time. This is when your body temperature plummets and your thought processes are at their lowest ebb because most hormonal and other messenger systems in the brain are throttled back.

The critical mistakes in the Three Mile Island nuclear near-disaster were made at 4am. Inspectors making a surprise visit to Peco's Peach Bottom nuclear power plant in western Pennsylvania discovered the operators asleep in their comfortable chairs in the quiet and darkened control room. They closed the plant for two years and fined the company $1.25 million.

The 24-Hour Society argues that modern engineers have failed dismally to take account of the limitations of human alertness in their designs of systems and machines. Workers in charge of critical processes are often rotated week by week through shifts in a way calculated to maximise the threat to their efficiency and safety.

And pitching humans against their own biological clocks can also wreak havoc emotionally and physically in the long term. Shift workers in America have a 60 per cent higher divorce rate than their nine-to-five colleagues: in Sweden, their risk of coronary artery disease is two to three times greater than that of regular workers.

The costs of fatigue-related accidents and inefficiency to industry are also staggering: the Exxon Valdez disaster off Alaska in March 1989 has cost the operators $3 billion so far, with a further $50 billion in damages still pending. Dr Moore-Ede estimates the annual costs of fatigue-related accidents worldwide to be $80 billion and the costs in lost productivity $267 billion.

Yet Britain has little choice but to move increasingly towards 24-hour working in order to remain competitive in the world market. In doing so, industry will have to follow the lead of such bodies as the Civil Aviation Authority, ensuring that shift rotas take some account of biological time. Recent research suggests that night-shift workers should stay on that shift permanently, leaving the rotation to their daytime colleagues, who can alternate between the early and late shifts without suffering the same penalties.

Problems of fatigue in industry can also be tackled by other relatively simple measures, such as using ultra-strong lighting to influence the brain's sleep/wake clock; Bophal-type chemical plants and nuclear power stations usually have dim, quiet control rooms where operators have to struggle against their body time to stay awake.

And if, God forbid, you do become the victim of a fatigue-induced accident, pray that you do not require emergency attention in hospital at 4am in the houseman changeover time of July or January. If you do, it is perfectly possible that you will be examined by a junior doctor who has not slept for 36 hours and who hardly knows the ward or the specialty. Human dedication and intelligence have an unequal struggle with human biology.

● *The author is a senior scientist at the MRC Applied Psychology Unit in Cambridge.*

Facing the cruel truth about HIV

The latest research disproves an optimistic theory which patients had eagerly embraced

Professor Peter Duesberg, a virologist at the University of California's Berkeley campus, is the chief protagonist of the perverse but seductive theory that the HIV virus does not cause Aids at all. It as a theory that compels the allegiance of those infected with the virus but not yet affected by Aids itself. In the United States especially this view has been enthusiastically embraced by the interest groups representing Aids patients, many of whom denounce the conventional view as a cruel deception by the medical establishment.

The truth is the opposite. The real deception is the alternative theory that HIV has nothing to do with Aids. But why should that matter, when there is so little that can at present be done to prevent the development of overt Aids in people infected with HIV?

There are several reasons for alarm. First, the alternative theory is a deception, one practised on one of the most emotionally vulnerable sections of the community. Second, if it were taken seriously by the biomedical research community, it would divert attention from the search for ways of dealing more effectively with HIV infection.

Third, the clamour from Duesberg and his followers for recognition of their alternative theory is likely to persuade many governments in developing countries conveniently to pay less attention to the problem of Aids, which already (in countries such as Uganda and Zambia) threatens to be overwhelming: a television programme on Channel 4 last night set out to show just that.

Yet, it is now clearer than ever that Duesberg's position is perverse. Today, *Nature* is publishing two research reports that explain why there may be a long period after infection with HIV when a person may be entirely free from symptoms of Aids, and why that period varies from one person to another. Although the infection may be latent for years, it is now clear that HIV multiplies apace in the lymph nodes and other organs of the immune system (the spleen, tonsils and adenoid glands).

That this should be the case is not surprising. HIV differs radically from more familiar viruses, those causing measles and influenza, for example, which have predictable incubation periods: its genetic material consists not of DNA (of which human chromosomes are made), but of RNA, a closely related chemical. But HIV comes equipped with an enzyme that will turn the RNA into DNA, which can then be incorporated into the chromosomes of an infected cell. And then the latent virus will be replicated every time the cell divides.

The two groups of scientists responsible for this week's developments (from the University of Minnesota and the National Cancer Institute in the United States) have been surprised to see how common are the signs of virus multiplication in the lymph nodes of people infected with HIV, but not yet showing symptoms of Aids. The cells chiefly affected are known as "helper" T-cells, which play a crucial part in the body's natural immune response to infection and in getting rid of other wayward cells, those fated to become cancer cells included.

> 'Immediate prospects for the treatment of the virus are not particularly cheerful'

The discovery of these pools of replicating HIV relies on a technique for spotting single molecules of RNA and DNA, which was not available when HIV was discovered less than ten years ago.

These developments convincingly give the lie to Duesberg's only cogent criticism of the conventional view — that it is difficult to recover virus from the helper T-cells circulating in the blood. Now it seems probable that these vital components of the immune system are damaged and perhaps killed off in the relative obscurity of the lymph nodes and the other organs of the immune system.

For the time being, the implications of these discoveries for the improved treatment of those with HIV infection or overt Aids are not cheerful. It is more difficult than ever to see how a vaccine against HIV could be effective in avoiding Aids. But there is a chance that a better understanding of what goes on in the lymph nodes of infected people will suggest how latency might be prolonged, which may be the best substitute for a cure now in sight.

How Duesberg and his followers will respond to these developments is far from clear. Duesberg is an ingenious (and personally likeable) man, but he runs the risk of further ostracism within the scientific community if he persists in giving aid and comfort to a cause that is now plainly wishful thinking.

Heterodox opinions in science are allowable, and sometimes even productive. But it is another question whether those who use them to offer false hope to those with HIV infection in the face of all the evidence can be held to be acting ethically.

JOHN MADDOX

● *The author is editor of* Nature.

ADVERTISEMENT

HEALTH TIPS

- Heal a cut faster using ordinary table sugar...
- Kill body odour with tomato juice *in* the bath...
- Rub aspirin on insect stings to stop the pain...
- Relieve asthma with two cups of *black* coffee...
- Dust baking powder on to skin to relieve burns...

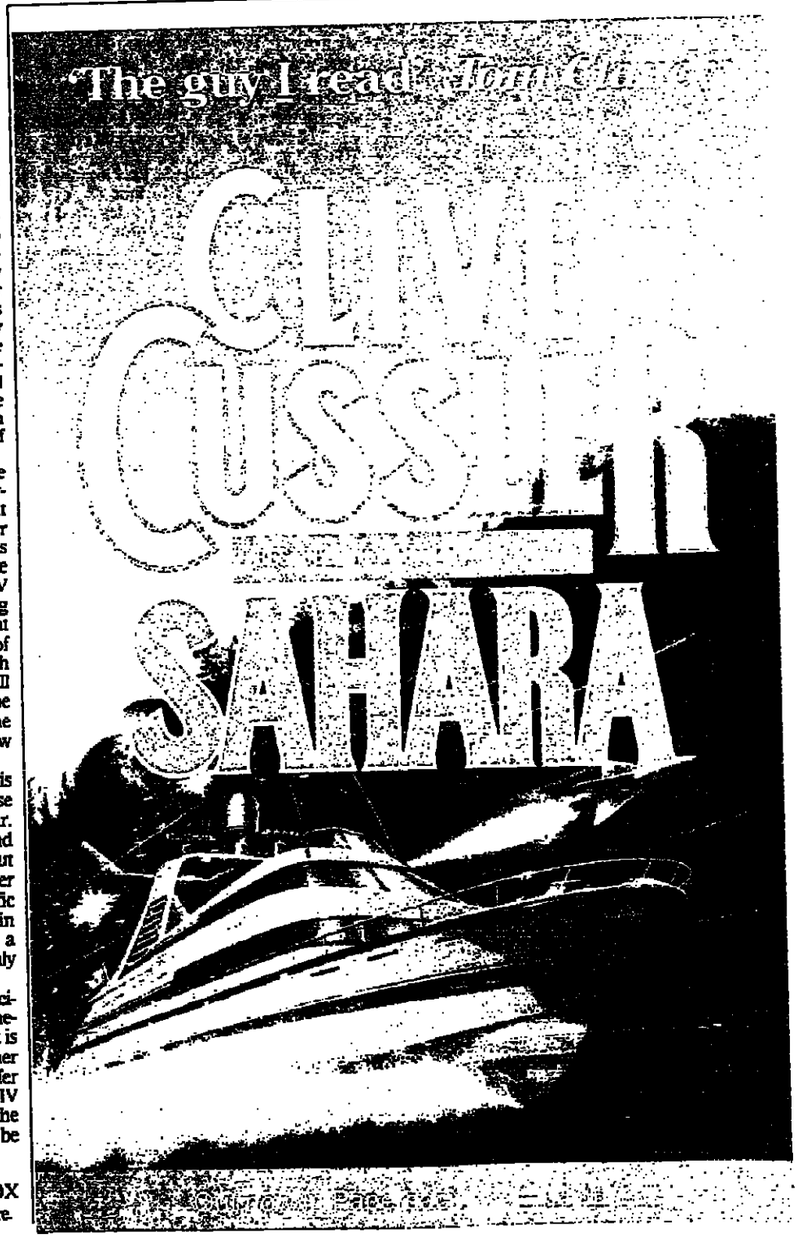
Now you can find over *1000* amazing age old health tips and remedies like those listed above in this new, comprehensive guide to traditional and country medicine.

'Traditional Health Remedies' helps you to help yourself, putting you firmly in the driving seat when it comes to relieving the chronic conditions and everyday ailments we all suffer from time to time. Here's just a small sample of the many different aches, pains and other health problems it covers.

Acne . . . Allergies . . . Arthritis . . . Cellulite . . . Cholesterol . . . Depression . . . Forgetfulness . . . Headaches . . . Heartburn . . . Incontinence . . . PMT . . . Ulcers . . . Varicose Veins . . . Wrinkles . . . And much, much more – 1,205 health tips in all!

Now you can find out which of these traditional health tips is right for you – quickly and easily. You may be surprised to discover just how much you can do to relieve your suffering, using these tested and proven health secrets.

This book is being made available for only £12.95, *(which includes handling and despatch)*. To order simply send name, address and book title with payment (cheques made out to Carnell Ltd.) to: Carnell Ltd., Dept. TT191 Alresford, nr. Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP, allowing up to 21 days for delivery. You can return the book within 30 days for a full refund if not satisfied.



هكذا من الأصل

Philip Howard



■ Regional pronunciation is essential — so that each area can look down on the others

Estuary English, as spoken by the Princess of Wales, Ken Livingstone and Norman Tebbit, has been around for longer than they suppose. It is merely the classless version of the Sarf-East accent known as "popular London", which has been startling the horses since Chaucer led his package tour to Canterbury. Symptoms of it are glottalling the *t* ("There's a lo' of i' abou' ") trouble with *l*, which sounds like *w*, so that *milk* comes out as *meeyouk* and *parcel* as *parsaw*, and avoidance of the posh drawled *a*, so that *garage* rhymes with *marriage*. Mutual intelligibility between Essex Estuary English, spiritual home of the glottal stop, and other tribes will survive.

In Belfast a *lake* is a hole in a kettle and *Omanexore* means, "My neck is hurting". If somebody says, "That yin thinks she's the kipper's knickers since Big Joe got aff wi her," it is a fair bet that she comes from Glesga. As Herbert Beerbohm Tree said to his leading lady: "Oh my God! Remember you're in Egypt. The *skay* is seen only in Kensington." English pronunciation is as difficult as its spelling, and there is a tendency, as it becomes the world language, for both of them to be simplified.

A world in which everybody pronounced English in the same way would be a nightmare dystopia. Luckily, this will never happen. In spite of its wild regional and class variant pronunciations and stresses, English is a lazy language to speak. It does not deploy as wide a variety of the vocal organs as other languages. For example, the click of disapproval that we write as *tut tut* or *tsk tsk*, and make by rasping the tongue against the top teeth, is not used as part of a word, as the consonants *t* and *p* are. But this sound is widely used in the click languages of southern Africa such as Xhosa.

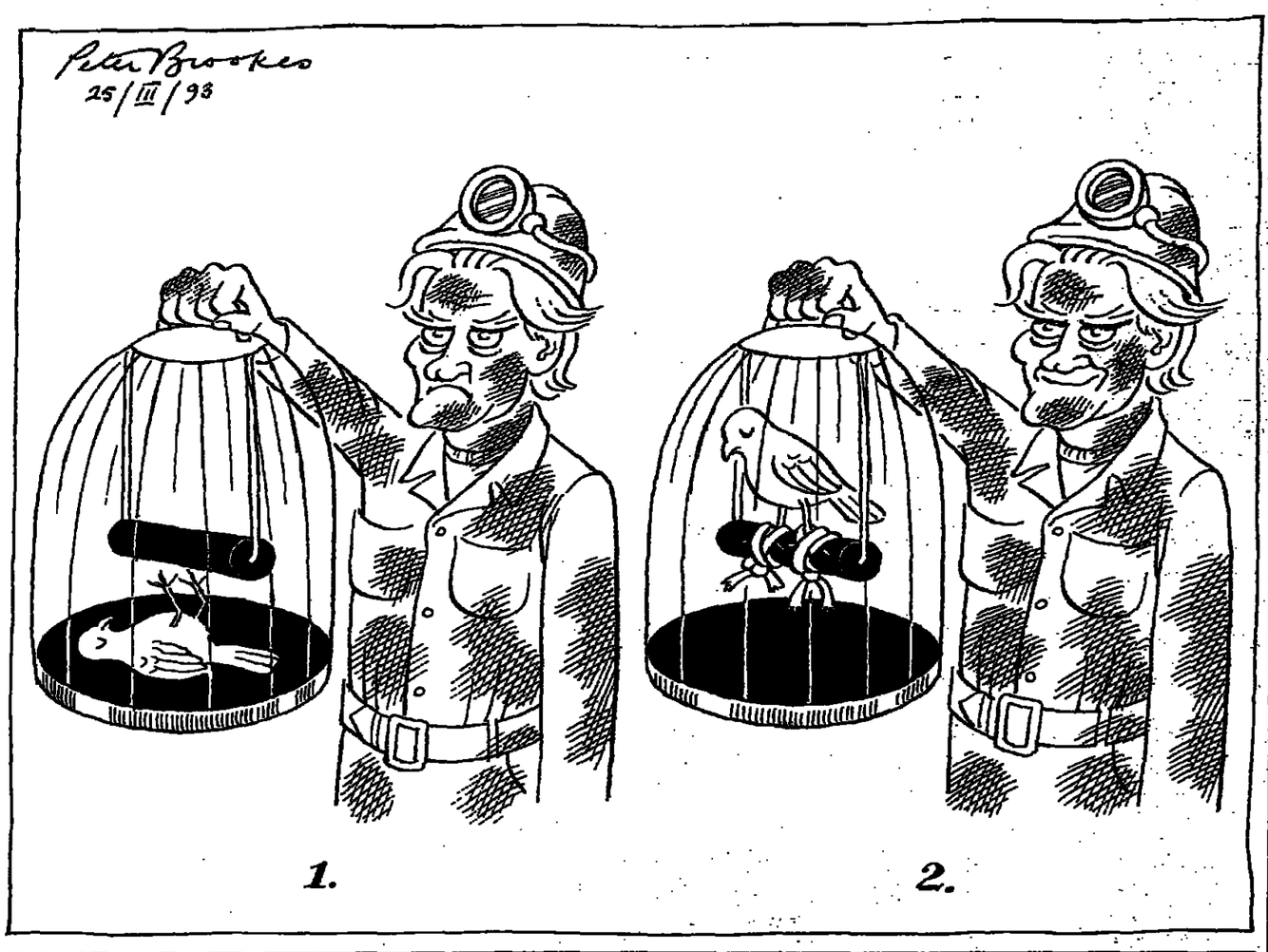
The nose is an organ that the British are better at looking down than pronouncing with. Speakers of Brummie from Birmingham are despised by speakers from other parts of the country for whining nasally (for the point of regional pronunciations is to enable one tribe of pronouncers to feel superior to another). But not even the most defiant Brummies, who sound to those from other parts of England as if they have a permanent cold in the nose, and who declaim EDGE-biston rather than the posh Edge-BAHston, make as much use of their noses to speak with as speakers of other languages, such as Portuguese and French.

The sound that we make with nose and palate, as in the insulting sneer *nyah*, is not much used in English. We have difficulty writing it, as in *canyon*, or we use the tilde diacritic, as in *cañon*. The linguisticians call this a palatalised nasal sound, and it is used widely in other languages, but seldom and with difficulty in English. How would Spanish get on without *mañana*? All the Romance languages make use of it, as you can see from the pedigree of our little word *sir*. The *ng* sound was there in Latin, the grandfather of the Romance languages, and the joint grandfather of English. The word was *senior*, which survives as triplet with *sir* and *sire* in English.

All the other children of Latin make a nasal pronunciation: Italian *signor*, French *monseigneur*, Spanish *señor*, Portuguese *senhor*, and so on. Only in our offshore islands did we avoid the nosy continental pronunciation, and turn *senior* into *sire* and *sir*.

The best advice is that the Romans pronounced *magnus* nasally as *mangnus*. Italians keep the sound in *magnifico*, and the French in *magnifique*. Brits say *magnificent* with a hardened *g* and a disconsonant. We have few words that make the nasal sound: *nude* and *new*, *neuter*, *enuresis*, *inure*. Under American influence these are losing their noses, for *nood* and *noo*. How long before some galloping gourmet hardens the *g* in *agneau* and *champignons*?

But in at least one novel sound the Estuary English and other southern Brits are deploying the formerly unEnglish *nya* noise, and that is in the recent practice of kissing everyone we meet (at any rate of the opposite sex) rhythmically on both cheeks. The division between little-enders and big-enders when opening boiled eggs is neither so wide nor so socially revealing as those who kiss smacking their lips and spitting, and those who say *nya*, *nya* as they peck, peck.



Great red EC herrings

The European bureaucracy is tackling yesterday's theoretical problems instead of pressing issues of practical economics

William Rees-Mogg

The economy is in crisis, society is in crisis, democracy is foundering. The very idea of a united Europe is in peril." This is not a quotation from a Euro-sceptic going some way over the top; it is a quotation from the President of the European Commission, Jacques Delors, speaking recently to the European Parliament. Apart from Italy, I cannot see any real evidence that "Western European democracy is foundering", although as a French socialist M Delors might well think so. The crises in the European economy and in European society are however sober truth.

Although they sometimes draw the wrong conclusions, British Euro-federalists are right when they criticise our national attitudes as provincial and insular. Britain is suffering from prolonged depression and a sense of national malaise, but the view from Brussels and Bonn — major power centres of the new European politics — is more alarming than that from London. If we want to understand the European crisis that President Delors talks about, we need to see it through German eyes, since the success or failure of the EC depends far more on the Germans than on the British or the French.

On Tuesday, Hoechst AG announced its annual results. Hoechst is a very important and characteristic German company. It is Europe's largest chemical group, larger than ICI. It represents the tradition of the German chemical industry, one of the most powerful in the world for 150 years. Its current problems exemplify the German economy's severe difficulties. In announcing its disappointing results for 1992, the chairman of Hoechst, Wolfgang Hilger, observed that "the financial year 1993, above all in Germany, has begun miserably. We can only hope that the depression will soon have bottomed out." The slump in demand in 1993 has brought Hoechst's capacity utilisation to below 70 per cent. Sales in the German market have fallen by a further 15 per cent on 1992; the chairman described that as "alarming". The dividend has been cut by 25 per cent: Hoechst has made only a "light operating profit" in the first quarter of 1993, and perhaps is in loss on its German operations.

Herr Hilger is quoted by the *Wall Street Journal* as saying that "the performance at our facilities in the US is better than in Europe and especially compared to Germany. We can't solve the problems of the German business only by cutting costs. We need real structural changes." Environmental protection costs, reflecting the strength of the German Green movement, cost DM 1.6 billion. In 1993, environmental costs may be higher than the operating profit.

What has been happening to Hoechst — recession, high German labour costs, extreme regulation, the need for restructuring — has been happening to most of German industry, particularly in motor vehicles, machinery and chemicals, which together account for nearly half of Germany's exports. Herr Hilger had to deny that Hoechst has any plans for a major migration of facilities out of Germany. This is not merely a cyclical downturn; German industry, the economic engine of the EC, has a long-term structural problem. Germany's costs are probably the highest in the world, and this offsets its traditional manufacturing efficiency.

Germany is the eastern frontier of the EC, just as the British Isles are the western frontier. We look out to the United States; Germany always has to think in eastern terms. What is happening in Russia has far more impact on Germany than it has on Britain. Collapse of the Yeltsin regime would threaten Germany through trade (German exports to Russia in 1992 were more than those of the next two exporters put together), through oil and gas supply, through potential debt default and mass emigration. In all of these ways, Germany has far more to lose than any other Western European country.

Germany has long been the dominant commercial and political power in Eastern Europe. The war in Bosnia and the dangers of a wider Balkan war are a much greater threat to German interests than to British. The 250,000 former Yugoslav refugees in Germany show how direct the impact has been. The Germans can no more distance themselves from the civil war in Bosnia than we could from civil war in Ireland.

Even the French election results must be unwelcome to the Bonn government. For most of the last decade, European politics has been dominated by the triumvirate of Chancellor Kohl, President Mitterrand and President Delors. The French election result is a French repudiation of the triumvirate, not just of President Mitterrand, unpopular as he is. The next French government is certain to be more nationalist, and cannot afford to be the acquiescent partner in Chancellor Kohl's strategies that President Mitterrand has been. The triumvirate may totter on, but its power is over.

In Germany itself, reunification has been far more expensive than was expected, and has left much deeper social divisions. The cultural difference between east and west Germany has produced a bitterness that threatens the newfound unity. The east Germans see themselves as second-class citizens; the west Germans see the east Germans as a burden they resent having to carry.

The internal morale of Germany is probably worse than that of Britain, low though ours is. Most Germans seem to regard their political leaders with contempt. Last week a German businessman told me that too much talent went into business leadership after the war, and that the politicians now at the top are mostly second-rate. Chancellor Kohl himself is seen as shrewd, defensive and cunning, but not wise. He is also criticised for promoting dull colleagues who are no threat to him.

The Kohl period is in any case coming to an end, though no one clearly sees what will come next. The depression is rapidly eroding his remaining support, and a broad coalition of the major parties may be necessary before the next election. Certainly the German government does not have the strength at home to be able to offer effective leadership to Europe. This analysis of Germany is central to an understanding of Europe, because Germany — particularly German industry — is the EC's economic, geographical and political foundation.

This European malaise makes Maastricht a sideshow. There is not going to be a single European currency in 1996, 1997 or 1999. Maastricht is a federal treaty for a federation that does not exist, based on assumptions about German power that have already been contradicted by events. It is the farewell scheme of the collapsing triumvirate. The main significance of the treaty is that it prevents serious discussion of the European response to the real issues. If the EC cannot respond to them, it is partly because "the good Europeans" have gone down a blind alley, and are now faced with a blank wall.

Europe is confronted by economic, international, social and political crises. The economic problems include the depression, unemployment, lack of technological advances, over-regulation, high costs, high taxation, obstacles to restructuring, lack of competitiveness, the challenge of Asia and the mismatch between Eastern and Western European wages and standards of living. The international problems include the further disintegration of the former communist countries, particularly Russia and Yugoslavia. The social problems include immigration, corruption, the inner cities, poverty and crime. The depth of the political crisis is shown by the disappearance of any effective or confident leadership. These issues constitute the European agenda.

How ought Europe to approach so formidable an agenda? No doubt the starting point must be democratic. What do the European people want? One of the great weaknesses of the present European system is that it has failed to develop democratic forms, and has lost touch with the real will of the people. If most countries are becoming more nationalist, it is because Brussels seems remote from their real interests.

The economic problem of depression and unemployment is the dominant public issue. The EC is now a high unemployment area and seems likely to remain so through the 1990s. The Maastricht convergence requirements will push unemployment higher, so Maastricht is no help. A European attack on unemployment, a growth policy, would help to restore the popularity of the EC.

Stronger European policies on unemployment, Russia and crime could contribute to the real welfare of real people. Otherwise, as M Delors fears, the European Community will become an unpopular and deserted shrine to an ideal without a public.

Gagged by good intentions

Pat Chapman, who helped draw up the journalists' code of practice, says the new rules are unworkable

There cannot be a free society without a free press. So says the first paragraph of the report by the National Heritage Committee into privacy and media intrusion. But, it says, that does not give papers a licence to "write whatever comes into their heads".

Do the committee members seriously think that is what the papers do? Have they not heard of libel writs, contempt, official secrets and injunctions? Presumably not. For while the committee talks of freedom of the press, it has also come out with the handcuffs. The committee suggests a hotline to allow complainants to try to prevent publication or enquiries being made, a privacy bill, a breach of confidence law, and legal aid for defamation and privacy protection.

The present voluntary Press Complaints Commission (PCC) — which gets a dwindling number of serious complaints as the months go by — would be replaced by a toughened-up Press Commission, which could instruct on the placing and size of apologies, fine journalists and order compensation. In short, their ideas are more draconian than those of Sir David Calcutt QC.

Gerald Kaufman drew up this report with his band of merry men. When I appeared before them last year, as a member of the PCC, they had heard from "victims" of the press, but most of the stories they told seemed to date back a long way, before the advent of the PCC and the code which all papers and magazines have been working to since 1991.

Let us imagine editing our tabloid newspaper according to the new ideas of Kaufman's kangaroo court. The presses are about to roll and the phone rings.

"Hello, Press Commission hotline here. Are you running a story about a married vicar having an affair with his choirmistress? One of his friends has been on — he says you harassed the vicar by ringing him up and turning up on his doorstep. He says he fears you may not be aware of the full facts and would you leave the story out?

"And are you running another story about . . ."

The editor eventually works out which stories have been worked on by her reporters, how many might have been worked on by both her reporters and those of another paper, and which calls were from other papers trying to find out what her paper is up to.

This charade is going on in newspapers and magazines across the country, and it also involves stories that were never going to appear anyway.

What will this cost, and who is going to pay for it? How many people will lie to the Press Commission to prevent a story appearing because it puts them in a bad light?

A few days later the vicar calls the editor of the paper to complain and then goes to the Press Commission saying his privacy was invaded. He also says the paper broke the new laws on breach of confidence because it was the choirmaster's angry husband who complained to the papers. The commission decides the story was in the public interest because the vicar deceived his parishioners, whom he urges to be faithful.

The vicar is not satisfied and goes to the statutory Press Ombudsman, a retired judge, who decides the story was not in the public interest because the public was not being "harmfully misled" and the vicar's affair did not "directly affect the discharge of any public functions". The Ombudsman fines the paper, orders it to print an apology, and to pay compensation to the vicar and his lover. The editor, who still thinks the public had a right to be told about the vicar, refuses. A court order says she must pay or will be in contempt. The paparazzi are there with their cameras as the editor is dragged off to prison for non-payment.

With freedom like this, who needs censorship?

The author is as former member of the Press Complaints Commission and editor of the News of the World.

Job, governor?

CHRIS PATTEN is a man who can take the political heat. The poll tax made sure of that. But even he must be finding the rapid deterioration in relations between Britain and China a strain. Scant surprise then, if the governor of Hong Kong's thoughts are turning to home.

To his old Oxford college, Balliol, perhaps, where a lengthy procedure to select a new master is entering its final stages. What could be more enticing than the prospect of swapping the stir-fry of Far Eastern politics for the civilised banter of an Oxford high table?

But if Patten is interested, he needs to get a move on. The five-year tenure of Professor Baruch Blumberg, the American Nobel prize winner, does not end until October of next year, but a successor is expected to be appointed shortly.

A shortlist of six candidates has already been drawn up, under the watchful eye of Sir Edward Heath, one of its more distinguished alumni, who is now president of the Balliol Society. Heath, as prime minister, employed Patten as director of Conservative Central Office research department. They remain close friends.

While Balliol would not offer great material rewards, it would have other attractions — not least its proximity to Westminster. As for what Patten would bring to Balliol, the answer is simple. Profile.

Lord Grimond, former leader of the Liberal Party and a Balliol man, is enthusiastic. Up to a point. "If Chris Patten would be prepared to live in Balliol, and give most of his time to Oxford affairs, he would be an excellent choice in keeping with the traditions of the college. But, if he were to use it as a platform for a return to Westminster, or to divide his time between Oxford and lucrative jobs in the city, he would not be acceptable." Back to the stir-fry then.

● *Now he has retired as director general of the BBC, Sir Michael Checkland just has the knotty problem of his official portrait to decide on. He is not keen, he mused yesterday at a Broadcasting Press Guild lunch, to be painted in a suit like other former DGs. Should he be the first to be painted in his shirt sleeves, his normal work garb? As for artist, he favours Lucien Freud. Is that wise? Judging on Freud's previous works, Checkland could end up shedding more than his jacket.*

Food's off

AMBITIOUS plans to turn the 11th-century Westminster Hall into a period tourist attraction and cafeteria look likely to be rejected by MPs.



Howls of protest went up from traditionalists over the proposals from the Commons refreshment department when they were unveiled last month.

But the draft report of the catering committee, chaired by the Tory MP Colin Shepherd, is thought to have squashed the scheme. The report also examined proposals to close Annie's Bar, the Westminster haunt famous for the late night exchange of gossip and rumour among ministers, MPs and journalists.

Shepherd would not be drawn on the contents. "The report is in draft form. We have taken into account observations from a wide range. The stage dealing with Westminster Hall will be published after Easter. Decisions on matters of such monumental interest to the press, as the future Annie's Bar, will have to wait a little longer." And the tourists? Let them drink tea — elsewhere.

Somebody's hour

THE corridors of Radio 4 are buzzing. A big commission is in the air. Controller Michael Green is accepting bids for the 3-4pm slot which before the last great scheduling reshuffle — the one that saw *Woman's Hour* moved from 2pm to 10.30am — was home to the *Afternoon Play*. Initial bids from producers for the slot — ideas, not money — have to be in by the end of this month.

Green's requirements are fairly flexible. According to Pete Atkin, Head of Network Radio South, in Bristol, who is bidding for the slot, Green's "brief is that it should be presented live; it should be off the news agenda, but topical; should have non-expert voices and should cover the whole country."

So what will it be? *Loose Ends* presenter Ned Sherrin is in no doubt: "Bring back *Woman's Hour*!" Well how many *Loose Ends* can one week have?

Writing crop

PADDY ASHDOWN will have no problem demonstrating his green credentials in future. He is just about to take delivery of a bio-degradable pen.

Proud Liberal Democrats say the pen, made from corn and complete with bird of liberty logo, is the first of its kind. When the ink runs out the pen can be buried in the garden. "They disintegrate," says a party official. Just like the Liberal Democrats.

Faroe hero

FOR centuries the inhabitants of the Faroe Islands have been braving the high seas. But not often, one suspects, to spend an evening with Cliff Richard. However, that is exactly what 300 Faroese are planning to do next month, when they descend on the unsuspecting city of Aberdeen. Such is the singer's popularity in the Faroes that an initial 100 concert tickets were snapped up within days. The weekly ferry has now changed its times to accommodate the fans.

Charles Poulsen, managing director of CP International which operates the ferry, says that normally at this time of the year the main cargo is fish. Passengers only tend to make the 22-hour crossing in the high season. "It is a very religious community on the Faroes which might explain part of Cliff Richard's popularity," says Poulsen. "Also they do not have much in the way of live entertainment."

Too close to the wind?



IT IS ten years since the swashbuckling deal-maker Peter de Savary came close to mounting a credible British challenge for the America's Cup. These days the owner of Littlecote and Skibo castle contents himself with still being in business — which is rather more than can be said for his successful rival of a decade ago, Alan Bond.

"There is life after debt," de Savary told a Cartier lunch yesterday. And might he be tempted to mount another bid for the Cup one day? "No, I don't think so. These days the America's Cup is like Formula One. There's so much money involved." A pause. "Mind you, if I get a couple of good deals away . . ."

A green shoot perhaps? Or a blue arrow?

TIMES PAST — THE TIMES

A FINE MESS

The heritage committee's plans for the press must be rejected

Yesterday's report on "privacy and media intrusion" from the national heritage select committee possesses a number of virtues that were *not* apparent in Sir David Calcutt's review of press self-regulation, published two months ago. The 13 MPs on the committee were unable, for example, to muster that sense of cold contempt for newspapers that Sir David's solo exercise achieved. Their case against the press was couched in kinder terms; there were many more frequent references to freedom; there was much theatrical rejection of Sir David's "statutory press authority". But the result is still a muddle wherein ill will, good intentions and careless disdain squat uneasily side by side. It is no less threatening to essential liberties than was the Calcutt report — and, because of the manner in which it has been produced, may yet be all the more dangerous than its predecessor.

After five months of study the MPs have proposed a long list of changes in the relationship between the press and the rest of the British public. They want taxpayers' money to be available for those bringing law-suits against journalists. They want a new Press Commission (PC) in place of the still youthful Press Complaints Commission (PCC). This new body would be equipped with powers to fine recalcitrant editors and a telephone "hotline" which complainants would be able to use to forestall unwanted publication of news.

The PC would not be founded on a statutory basis. But sitting alongside it like a police dog would be a statutory Press Ombudsman, appointed by the Lord Chancellor. This new figure of state authority would have powers to require editors to retract and "correct" stories under his or her direct supervisory control. The confusion of complainants and journalists alike would be arguably the least damaging result of this basic infringement upon press freedom.

None of these notions would be of consequence in normal times. But these are not normal times for newspapers. Strong governments, guided by serious aims and ambitions, would be happy to read the harmless tinkerings of frustrated MPs and consign them to the never-never tray. A weak government, guided by survival instincts, may be persuaded that, because something is demanded, "something must be done".

The heritage secretary, Peter Brooke, is not a man who would instinctively wish to interfere with press freedom. But, by his incautious endorsement of Sir David Calcutt's arguments against the PCC, he has narrowed his options. The Press Complaints Commission has improved journalists' behaviour and gained both public and professional respect. Its inadequacies are alleged almost wholly by those whose public lives place them under scrutiny. The PCC has shown in its early years that it can adapt both its ethos and its membership to match criticism. But it risks replacement now because some ministers want to placate parliamentarians and some parliamentarians want to protect their friends.

The new Press Commission would be charged by the heritage commitee with the ringing duty of "upholding press freedom". Beware politicians who promote freedom to criticise themselves. The committee appears to believe that the best route to a more responsible press is the generation of complaint — through new regional offices, financial inducements and telephone hotlines. It gives no justification for its view that a suppressed demand to complain truly exists in the country; there is no indication that droves of people are discouraged from complaining by PCC bureaucracy, arrogant editors and inadequate reward. If there were a clear demand for action from the public one might expect more evidence to have been made public by the committee. Of politicians' own desire to curb the press there is sadly all too clear a sign.

GREEN SHOOTS

Irish disgust must slowly push the IRA to the margins

"I wish to God that the death of this little child will be the start of something that will stop them," said Wilf Ball, father of the three-year-old murdered by the IRA in Warrington. Taking the grieving father at his word, a Dublin housewife, Susan McHugh, has called for mass protests to demonstrate the disgust felt by ordinary Irish people at this crime. Other hopeful signs have included the launch of a fund by an Irish nationalist paper in Belfast to help the victims of Warrington, an initiative which southern newspapers have also joined. Is this the embryo of a new Irish peace movement?

The collapse of previous peace initiatives should tinge expectations about the movement's success with scepticism — but not cynicism. Men who are prepared to kill women and children for political ends are not prone to sentimentality. The IRA's bullet and ballot box strategy shows its disdain for popular opinion. But gunmen, in Mao's phrase about guerrilla warfare, are like fish who need water in which to swim. If Mrs McHugh and others like her can drain some of that water by reducing the minority which actively or passively supports the IRA, some good will be done.

Acts of moral courage have their own intrinsic value. They can also be infectious. Mrs McHugh's bravery may even cross the Atlantic, especially if the American media, which reported the death of Jamie Bulger in such detail as a symptom of British malaise, give the same exposure to the death of Jonathan Ball and popular revulsion against the IRA in Ireland. Although IRA fundraising in America has slipped in recent years, there is still woolly-minded support for extreme republicanism. And there is appalling ignorance about Northern Ireland, best characterised by a former mayor of Chicago who once demanded that the British "pull their troops out of Dublin". Any enlightenment must help.

Yet there remain dangerous ambiguities in southern Irish condemnations of IRA violence. The Republic's constitution still contains provisions that claim Northern Ireland as part of its territory. Although the new breed of politicians is beginning to question the offending articles, there is much talk of unity of North and South "by consent". Why a million Protestants in the North should ever consent to unity is never explained. The IRA also wants Irish unity, but has logically drawn the conclusion that it will not be achieved by Protestant consent.

The ghosts of unhappy Anglo-Irish history still haunt contemporary debate. Ireland's independence began with a violent struggle against the British. Its largest party, Fianna Fáil, was born of a republican faction of Sinn Fein that once forcibly opposed the foundation of the Free State. Given this national mythology, attitudes to IRA violence are understandably ambivalent. At the top President Mary Robinson and foreign minister Dick Spring have done much to cure that ambivalence. At a popular level Mrs McHugh and the thousands of Dubliners who sign their condolences outside the General Post Office in O'Connell Street, the site of the 1916 Easter Rising, may also help to exorcise Ireland's ghosts.

LORD OF MISRULE

The West must not waver in its demands for Kenyan reforms

Kenya's president, Daniel arap Moi, is by no means the first African ruler to burn his bridges with the International Monetary Fund and Western donors, accusing them of imposing "suicidal" economic reforms as a condition for aid. Nor is he the first to use such arguments to defend a system riddled with corrupt practices which benefit an entrenched elite, stifle economic potential and impoverish the vast majority. If anything, Mr Moi's stance is a return to the kind of irresponsibility which a new generation of Africans, in Kenya as elsewhere on the continent, want to put behind them.

His arguments are feeble to his fellow countrymen. They know that liberalising Kenya's economy will be painful, above all for the urban poor, but not as painful as the continued leeching of the economy by politicians bent on self-enrichment. The main opposition parties either boycotted the opening of Kenya's parliament this week, or walked out as Mr Moi rose to speak. Paul Muite, a prominent political opponent, has called for a campaign of civil disobedience in protest, describing the hallmarks of Mr Moi's government as "mismanagement, corruption and blatant economic sabotage".

These were precisely the West's complaints when it suspended aid to Kenya in 1991. Easily manipulated state controls expand the scope for corruption and the abuse of patronage. The reforms the West seeks would attack the rot at source by making Kenya's economy work more transparently, and its officials more accountable.

As the IMF arrived for crucial negotiations last month, Mr Moi introduced a number of reforms — only to backtrack a few weeks later when they were, rightly, deemed insufficient. The West must now back Kenya's reforming democrats, its courageous judges, churchmen and the auditors who have exposed cases of rank corruption against its ruling establishment. That means continuing to withhold aid, even in the face of Kenya's now considerable need.

Western governments have, however, reduced their own room for manoeuvre. They had hoped that Kenya's multi-party elections last December, to which Mr Moi reluctantly agreed, would resolve Kenya's severe crisis of governance. But the elections, which returned Mr Moi and Kanu, the ruling party, to power, were notable for the intimidation of opposition candidates and what international observers called the "centralised and systematic" abuse of state power and money to win votes.

Most Western governments, including Britain, decided none the less that the results had not been so distorted as to invalidate the vote. This has fanned political tensions. Mr Moi's credibility in Kenya is low but so, since December, is the West's. Mr Moi evidently feels that having outflanked Western demands for political reform, he can defy them outright on the economy. Hyper-inflation and social unrest may yet persuade him back into the fold. But there is no sense in the West enunciating conditions for aid aimed at helping the governed to call their governments to account, unless it intends to stand by them unwaveringly.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Fair trial for the new justice act

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust

Sir, Now that the Lord Chief Justice has added his voice to criticism of the 1991 Criminal Justice Act (reports, later editions, March 22; March 23) some words in defence of the legislation may be helpful.

Justice demands that the sentencing of offenders should be consistent, reasoned, open and predictable. In no jurisdiction in the world is judicial independence interpreted to mean unfettered judicial discretion. Geographical disparities in the use of custody have been a negation of justice — and are still with us.

Establishing a legislative framework for the use of imprisonment and community penalties, the act does not remove judges' discretion, but it does mean that similar principles are brought to bear. By insisting that penalties are commensurate with the seriousness of the offence or, in the case of violent and sexual offences, with the need to protect the public from serious harm, the profligate use of custody for petty offenders, which has so characterised sentencing practice, can be avoided.

Doubtless there will be fine tuning of some of the act's provisions, particularly the system of means-related fines. But it would be deeply disappointing if the underlying principles were to be thrown overboard.

Fundamental to the act is the belief that sentencing policy should not be the exclusive province of the judiciary. Perhaps it is this, above all else, to which Lord Taylor of Gosforth objects.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SHAW,
Director, Prison Reform Trust,
59 Caledonian Road, N1.
March 23.

From the Chair of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation

Sir, The Lord Chief Justice's criticisms of the 1991 Criminal Justice Act verge on the irresponsible. The more frequently someone is sent to prison the more likely he or she is to become a persistent offender. Community sentences are far more effective in this respect, at a fraction of the cost to the Exchequer.

Criticism of variations in unit fines has tended to omit reference to the first principle — that the base level of the fine is determined by the seriousness of the offence. Variations between courts' use of their powers have always been easy to find. If anything, the Criminal Justice Act should reduce inconsistencies of this kind, once its use is well established. It has been in operation for less than six months — hardly an adequate trial period.

It is of the utmost importance that those who have to apply this new legal framework should be encouraged to do so firmly, fairly and consistently, so that the principles upon which it has been based can be properly tested. There is an appeal process for those who feel aggrieved at its effects upon them, and the attorney-general has the power to refer for review sentences he considers unduly lenient.

The role of leaders of the judiciary should be to encourage by positive example the application of properly framed laws. Talk of the public taking the law into their own hands would, from other sources, sound remarkably like incitement to riot. Fortunately the public are more sensible than these comments by Lord Taylor of Gosforth imply. Government studies of the opinions of victims (British crime surveys) do not support the attitudes which he ascribes to them.

Yours sincerely,
JENNY ROBERTS,
Chair, Association of Chief Officers of Probation,
3/4 Shaw Street, Worcester.
March 23.

Budgeting for future

From Dr Steve Lisseter

Sir, Everyone is familiar with the concept of monetary annuities, in which a lump sum is used to purchase future income. Could not the same principle be applied to fuel bills? For a lump sum one might purchase a certain number of units per year for life, leaving only a small residual bill, or possibly even a refund if consumption was lower than anticipated.

Such annuities might form part of retirement planning for the well-heeled, and (especially if tax-deductible) a way of children providing for aging parents. The scheme should appeal to the private sector as it provides up-front investment capital.

Yours,
S. LISSETER,
38 Highdown,
Worcester Park, Surrey.
March 19.

From Mr P. Gillibrand

Sir, "National insurance must still eventually be consolidated with income tax" (leading article, March 17).

Double-taxation of pensioners, or more tax-return complications in order to avoid it?

Yours etc,
P. GILLIBRAND,
8 Fox Close, Queens Road,
Weybridge, Surrey.

Business letters, page 27
Sports letters, page 39

A judgment on computer hacking

From Mr Steven Bartlett

Sir, Your editorial of March 20, "Crimes of the intellect", misses an essential point arising out of the acquittal of Paul Bedworth, charged with computer hacking (report, March 18). If the courts and jurors have problems deciding about computer misuse as a serious offence, then so do offenders.

The Computer Misuse Act, implemented to the letter, would result in hundreds of thousands of convictions against men and women who would normally be considered law-abiding. The enforcement of the act relies on the malicious intent and potential personal gain of the offender, and damage, financial or otherwise, to the victim.

The punishment of a hacker who has caused company damage, where gain was not the motive, must take account of the precautions that companies employ to prevent any would-be transgressor: no point in bolting the front door if you leave the back door wide open.

In this instance there appeared to be no personal gain or malicious intent and many would agree with the court's decision to acquit Mr Bedworth. Companies cannot expect the support of the courts if they continue to maintain security systems that are archaic and easy to breach. If Mr Bedworth has behaved irresponsibly, so have the violated companies.

Yours sincerely,
STEVEN BARTLETT,
150 Highbury Hill, N5.
March 21.

From Mr Nigel R. Armfield

Sir, The suggestion by the editor of the *Hacker's Handbook*, quoted in your report of March 18, that by simply copying a letter onto a hard disk one commits the offence of unauthorised modification is incorrect. In order for a person to be guilty of an offence under section 3 of the Computer Misuse Act, a person must have intent to cause a modification of a computer and by so doing

(a) impair the operation of the computer,

(b) prevent or hinder access to any program or data held in any computer, or

(c) impair the operation of any such program or the reliability of such data.

Merely to copy a letter onto a hard disk need not, in itself, satisfy any of these conditions. If one did not have to prove intent then, of course, the outcome of the trial (in which I was a prosecution witness) would presumably have been different.

Yours,
N. R. ARMFIELD
(Network Adviser),
Department of Computing Services,
Leeds Metropolitan University,
Calverley Street,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.

From Dr S. P. Castell

Sir, The Bedworth computer hacking case is unusual in its having successfully run a defence of "obsession". That innovation apart, it does not demand "an urgent Home Office enquiry into how the laws on computer hacking could be tightened" as called for by the British Computer Society (report, March 20).

In a study carried out for the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency and the Treasury, published in 1990, I highlighted issues which are rather more important: the need for computer systems and operational practices properly capable of forensic scrutiny, delivering undoubted evidential reliability; and the danger that today's computers are intrinsically leaky filing cabinets.

Before too much energy is spent tightening the law against computer misusers it is surely time the computer industry began to think about delivering legally secure systems, architecturally incapable of being misused. We all need, and should be demanding, a radical redesign of the architecture of computers rather than a tinkering with the law governing their use.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN CASTELL
(Director),
Castell Computer and Systems
Telecommunications Ltd.,
20 Grange Road,
Wickham Bishops, Witham, Essex.
March 21.

From the Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield

Sir, Computer misuse must count as one of the scourges of the modern age and any message which conveys the impression to young people that it is of little consequence is doing them a profound disservice.

We have a duty to ensure that young people know that computer misuse is not only morally wrong but can cause considerable distress, expense and time wastage to countless others. If legislation is inadequate in this direction then the redrafting of the law is a matter for urgent consideration.

Yours faithfully,
R. P. MARDLING,
Headmaster,
Queen Elizabeth Grammar School,
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

From Mr Robin Sparks

Sir, How long will it be before a rape case is successfully defended on grounds of "overwhelming obsession"?

Yours faithfully,
R. SPARKS,
94 Reigate Road,
Ewell, Epsom, Surrey.
March 20.

Care and disability

From Mr Alfred Morris, MP for Manchester Wythenshawe (Labour)

Sir, I am most grateful for the support for my Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill expressed by the chairmen of the Papworth Trust and the Enham Trust, Mr N. H. M. Chancellor and Major D. Sebag-Montefiore (letter, March 18).

As they say, action to ban discrimination that piles handicap on handicap for disabled people is now a moral imperative that must not be denied by market forces. It is also urgently necessary to bring the UK into line with other countries, not least the United States, which have already legislated.

What has not been much reported is that the government's action in blocking the bill procedurally in the Commons on February 26 came after it had been given a third reading by the House of Lords. It was ably piloted for me through all its stages there by Baroness Lockwood.

Nor is it widely known that the Commons itself approved a motion for the bill's enactment, in the following terms, immediately before the government obstructed its second reading on February 26:

That this House believes that anti-discrimination legislation is necessary to ensure equality of opportunity for people with disabilities; and calls for the early enactment of specific provisions relating to public transport and other public and private services, employment and housing.

Thus the government is now defying not only the sponsors of the bill, of all parties, but also the explicit approval of its purposes by the House of Commons on February 26.

When George Bush signed the Americans With Disabilities Act in 1990, which in many respects is stronger than my bill, he gave exemplary leadership by telling US employers and others that there are benefits as well as costs in ending unfair discrimination against disabled people. He said:

You have in your hands the key to the success of this act, for you can unlock a splendid resource of untapped human potential that, when freed, will enrich us all.

It is also worth recalling that Lord Renton, speaking from the Conservative benches in the Lords, said of my bill that the government should "at least provide time for its discussion" in the Commons. He added: "Better still, ministers could take on the bill themselves and make it a government bill."

Much to their honour, other Conservative peers gave the bill their backing, just as many Conservative MPs have given it strong and consistent support.

In the 1970s, by common consent, the UK led the world in legislating to make life better for disabled people. Today we lag far behind many other countries.

As the letter from Mr Chancellor and Major Sebag-Montefiore may have helped the government to see, the only question now is not whether Britain will ultimately legislate to give full citizenship to disabled people, but whether we shall be the last country in the developed world to do so.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED MORRIS,
House of Commons.
March 19.

Service training merger

From the Secretary of the Institute of Marine Engineers

Sir, Lord Gregson (letter, March 15) is apparently unaware that this engineering institution, which caters both for the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy, has indeed expressed disquiet to the government at the rumoured closure of the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon. Three factors in particular convince us that Manadon must be allowed to continue to fulfil its unique role:

1. As a body authorised by the Engineering Council to accredit courses for marine engineers, we have been particularly impressed by those run by the RNEC, which include far more training in the practical aspects of marine engineering than is available elsewhere.

2. En route to a classless society it is worthy of note that some 40 per cent of the officers graduating at the RNEC are drawn from the ranks of the ratings, who do not start with the academic qualifications required for degree courses elsewhere.

3. Nobody who has visited the RNEC could fail to be impressed by the wide range of equipment and facilities, unique in the UK. The loss of this is to be deprecated; far better that it be opened up to wider use through the strong links already established with the University of Plymouth.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. SLOGGETT,
Secretary,
The Institute of Marine Engineers,
The Memorial Building,
76 Mark Lane, EC3.
March 17.

Fear of national parks in limbo

From Lord Norrie and others

Sir, We are writing to draw attention to the urgent need for fresh national parks legislation. The government has already accepted the central recommendation of the 1991 Edwards report that Britain's national parks should be administered by independent, accountable authorities, but there has still been no indication of when this legislation will be introduced.

The reorganisation of local government will place the future administration of the parks in limbo, with no possibility of coherent planning or management. This is why the lack of a legislative timetable is so worrying.

The current local authority arrangements for the three parks in Wales will cease in April 1995, when the new unitary authorities are expected to come into being. Unless national park legislation is included in the Queen's speech this autumn these parks will not have independent status in time.

Apart from the option of including the parks in a comprehensive environmental protection bill, an attractive and quicker alternative would be to have a short, separate government bill on national parks alone. This could be introduced into the House of Lords, where the Edwards report has already gained widespread, cross-party support. We urge the government to accept this proposal.

Yours,
NORRIE, CRICKHOWELL,
WILLIAMS of ELVEL,
MORRIS of CASTLE MORRIS,
JOHN HUNT, DEREK EZRA,
CHORLEY, MORAN,
House of Lords.
March 23.

Sale of stolen goods

From Mrs F. J. White

Sir, I was delighted to see the letter from Professor W. B. Harvey (March 18) on the subject of "market overt", where, contrary to the principle of ownership in English law, the title for stolen goods can pass in certain street markets.

Art theft is rife and with the dissolution of frontier checks as a result of the European single market and the possible enlargement of the European Community it will get worse. It is most important that firm measures are taken soon to prevent dishonest persons from taking advantage of different countries' varying laws of title in order to sell stolen goods.

I was a victim of theft in 1991 and have reason to believe that certain of the items taken quickly passed through a London street market in the way Professor Harvey mentions. I understand that efforts are being made at national and international level to standardise laws which will help in the recovery of stolen works of art.

Negotiations will not be easy but I suggest the British put their own house in order first. A market where stolen goods can be quickly resold is a disgrace to this country.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE WHITE,
8 Queen's Ride, SW13.
March 19.

Flamsteed restoration

From Mr Ian Angus

Sir, Nigel Hawkes is wrong to suggest that the "patina of the years has been lost" by stripping paint from the panelling of the Octagon Room at Flamsteed House, Greenwich ("New light on ancient wisdom", Arts, March 17).

The wall plastering and panelling, both extensively renewed in the 1950s, required repair and thorough preparation, in particular to achieve a reasonable ground for the painting of the walnut tree graining on the panelling and to do justice to the off-white distemper which we applied to the walls and ceiling. The result could hardly be described as "glossy": unnatural, perhaps, but only because the nature of current perceptions of history is tinted with sepia.

The Octagon Room is firmly rooted in the 17th century and must have been one of the brightest architectural products of the scientific movement. What matters now, as your article rightly infers, is that the evidence of more recent years is not wiped out in the zeal of presenting the past.

Yours faithfully,
IAN ANGUS,
Carden & Godfrey (Architects),
81 Blackfriars Road, SE1.
March 18.

A word in our ear

From Mr Robert Hardcastle

Sir, To have the word "lineage" as the answer to a *Times* Crossword clue on two successive days (March 17 and 18) may be regarded as a misfortune.

To have it *in the same place* on two successive days looks like carelessness.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT HARDCASTLE,
Lawn Cottage, Camden Park,
Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: His Excellency Dr Virgilio Barco and Señora de Barco were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Colombia to the Court of St James's.

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple was received by Her Majesty upon his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar.

Lady Chapple was also received by The Queen.

General Sir Edward Burgess was received by Her Majesty upon relinquishing his appointment as President, Royal British Legion.

Mr Richard Thomas was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Luanda.

Mrs Thomas was received by The Queen.

Mr Peter Westmacott was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Queen, patron, Youth Hostels Association, this afternoon opened Rotherhithe Youth Hostel, Southwark, London SE16, and was received by the Mayor of Southwark (Councillor Mary Ellery).

Her Majesty toured the hostel, escorted by the chairman (Mr John Patten), and afterwards unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Mrs Robert de Pass, Sir Kenneth Scott and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

The President of the Republic of Cyprus and Mrs Clerides were received by The Queen this evening.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: The Prince Edward, chairman, the International Council of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this morning left Heathrow Airport, London, for the United States of America and Canada.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer is in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 24: The Princess Royal this morning presented The Princess Royal Award to Mr Gordon Newman for the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers at Buckingham Palace.

Her Royal Highness, patron, British Executive Service Overseas, received the Viscount Boyd of Merton upon relinquishing his appointment as president and Mr Robert Horton upon assuming the appointment.

The Princess Royal, patron, the Association of Combined Youth Clubs, this afternoon attended a special appeals luncheon at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, London W1.

Her Royal Highness, immediate past master, the Worshipful Company of Loriners, later attended the trade liaison committee and finance committee meetings, Guildhall, London EC2.

Lady Carew Pole was in attendance.

The Princess Royal, patron, British Executive Service Overseas, this evening gave a reception for the council and representatives of the corporate membership scheme at Buckingham Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon received the Presidents of Queen Mary's Clothing Guild at St James's Palace on the occasion of the guild's annual general meeting.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 24: The Prince of Wales today visited Cumbria and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Sir Charles Graham, Bt).

His Royal Highness this morning visited the St Bees Management Centre where he met teachers and students involved in management training programmes, St Bees School, St Bees.

The Prince of Wales, president, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, afterwards attended a trade fair where His Royal Highness met young people who have established their own businesses with help from the trust, St Bees School.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited the Vivat Trust's restoration of Church Brow Cottage, Kirkby Lonsdale.

His Royal Highness later visited Barrow-in-Furness and met groups involved in the economic development of Cumbria.

Finally The Prince of Wales visited Warrington and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cheshire (Mr William Bromley Davenport).

His Royal Highness visited Warrington General Hospital and met hospital staff, emergency staff and patients.

Commander Robert Fraser, RN, was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 24: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Marshal, Women's Royal Air Force, today received Air Commodore Ruth Montague, Director of the Women's Royal Air Force.

Birthdays today

Sir Brian Bailey, former chairman, Health Education Authority, 70; Major Sir Shane Blewitt, royal equerry, 58; Mr Humphrey Burton, artistic consultant, Barbican Centre, 62; Mr Robert Cecil, author, 80; Lord Crawshaw, 60; Professor Mary Douglas, anthropologist, 72; Professor Sir Raymond Firth, anthropologist, 92; Professor Sir Patrick Forrest, surgeon, 70; Mr Robert Fox, theatrical producer, 41; Miss Aretha Franklin, singer, 51; Sir Peter Gibbings, chairman, Anglia Television Group, 64; Mrs Penelope Gilliatt, writer, 61; General Sir James Glover, 64; Mr Benjamin Hanbury, racehorse trainer, 47; Mr David Hicks, interior designer and author, 64; Mr Elton John, singer, 46; the Most Rev Alwyn Rice Jones, Archbishop of Wales 59; Sir Bernard Miller, former chairman, John Lewis Partnership, 89; Mr Leif Mills, trades unionist, 57; Lord Quinton, 68; the Earl of Stradbroke, 56; Lord Walker of Worcester, 61; Mr Michael Whitlam, director-general, British Red Cross Society, 46.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will have luncheon with the commissioners at the headquarters of the Crown Estate at 16 Carlton House Terrace at 11.45.

The Prince of Wales will inaugurate the European Bank's permanent headquarters at 1 Exchange Square, EC2, at 11.30 and will attend an anniversary performance of Handel's *Messiah* at the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, at 6.25.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Pioneer Corps, will attend the final march past at the Guildhall, Northampton, of the Royal Pioneer Corps before the formation of the Royal Logistic Corps, at 11.45 and afterwards will be present at a luncheon.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, will attend a reception to launch the Palliative Care Appeal for India at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at 6.45.



Hat with a history: an employee of an auction house in Munich shows off a cylinder hat that once belonged to the Duke of Wellington which is expected to sell for £14,000 next month. The duke, better known for innovations in footwear, is nevertheless credited with introducing this type of hat to fashionable British society in the 1830s

Archaeologists dig in for working summer

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

DOZENS of digs are looking for volunteers this summer, according to the journal *Archaeology*. They include sites from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages, and are located across Europe from western Ireland to Red Square in Moscow.

Those wanting to excavate their own ancestry in Britain have a choice including Crickley Hill, the Iron Age and neolithic site in the Cotswolds, a Roman villa at Piddington near Northampton, the Roman fort of Arbeia at South Shields on Tyneside, and the 14th-century gatehouse of Battle Abbey in Sussex.

In Scotland there is the long-running "Whithorn Dig", including an early Christian church and monastery and a Viking settlement, while in Ireland, Edmund Spenser's home at Kilcolman Castle is being surveyed.

Across the Channel there are opportunities in Belgium, in the medieval towns of Stavelot and Liège and at the palaeolithic cave site of Scladina on the Meuse, while just across the border in France the sanctuary of Cybele and Attis at Baudimont is one of several excavations taking place around Arras. Other digs are scattered across France, and include Professor John Collis's decade-long study of the beginnings of urbanisation in the Auvergne. Two contrasting sites are Le Vieux Château in Burgundy, occupied from neolithic times until the 16th century, and Le Port, a trading village of the 5th century BC that lasted for only half a century before being abandoned.

At the far end of Europe, exploration of medieval Moscow is taking place almost under the Kremlin walls, and outside the city the summer palace of Peter the Great's father is being uncovered. In Ukraine, Canadian archaeologists are looking for help in studying the medieval city of Kamaniets-Podilsky.

Many of the digs accept volunteers by direct enrolment, and sometimes they are fed and housed free. Other projects charge for subsistence, and there is a flourishing "pay-to-dig" industry where part of the fee (usually about half) is passed on to the excavator to help with expenses.

Source: *Archaeology* Vol 46 No 2.

Institute of Administrative Management

The following have successfully completed the December 1992 examinations for the Institute's Diploma in Administrative Management:

R Ahmad; A P Allan; S Amos; A P Ashby; L J Barr; J A Chambers; Chan Li Li; G Chang Kwai Choo; Chay Tuck Yin; K Cheah Mei Lian; Chen Fong Sau; C Chia Kim Hiang; K G Chiam Li Chin; Chiu Kah Luan; P Chong Choy Ying; Chong Suit Hoong; C Chow Lai Meng; Chua Ai Key; Chua Bee Hoon; L Chua Bee Suan; Chua Boey Noi; C Chua Gek Lan; J Chua Lay Kheng; Chua Siew Hoon; Chung Hwee Lin; T Curran; Fong Oi Meng; M Foo Jee Leng; J M Freeburn; Goh Mui Hua; Goh Mui Noi; Goh Yong Lai; J S Greenwood; Gwee Siew Ghee; J Han Ai Phen; Heng Mya Keng; C Henthorn; Ho Chui Choo; P A House; S Jackson; A H Johnson; A N Jugen; M Kannaya; M W J Kennedy; J Khong Lai Ling; Koh Ah Toh; S Koh Guan Chye; Lam Mei Peng; Lau Mee Lin; S Lee Chong Yee; J Lee Kim Hong; J Lee Shu Juan; Lee Wai Tuck; L Leong Poh Khum; Lim Bee Li; Lim Muay Muay; F Lim Mui Eng; D Loh Mei Mei; Loh Wai Lin; Loo Chey Yan; Low Bee Leng; B Low Puay Hoong; Lu Yong Yong; A D Lumm; A Lyttle; G MacKenzie; E Mak Yuet Kuen; A D McDowell; N Mohamed Rahmat; Neo Siew Cheng; Ng Bee Keow; Ng Lee Yiah; Ng Siew Se; Noraini Bte Mustafa; J Ong Gek Eng; J Ong Phaik See; J Oo Poh Ling; A Pajotte-Gill; G Pearson; J Poo Soong Lian; D Quek Kee Hui; V Quek Lay Eng; A Quoh Gek Lan; S Seah Kim Muay; E Seah Siew Choo; See Pheck Geok; S Senoussi; M Shanmugam; M S Shipley; J Sim Mua; Sin Aik Ming; A/L Raman Nair Sri Ram Nair; M T Stewart; J Sua Ju Lan; Subba Prem Kumar; Tan Busy Imm; D Tan Hong Seng; Tan Peck Keng; I Tan Pheck Hong; S Tan Siew Poh; Tang Kit Wah; J Tang Puay Tin; Tay Hwa Hoe; Teh Sek Hoe; L Y Teo; Teo Kueh Liang; Tham Lai Kuen; S M Thompson; S Tom Wing Bailey; A Tong Ah Moy; Voo How Kheng; J Wang Tien Chin; K J West; S Winter; A Wong Ban Seng; M Wong Chye Foon; F Wong Siew Kit; Yan Yuen Hoong; Yap Leng Leng.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.J. Donald and Miss K. Cleverley

The engagement is announced between Mark James, only son of Mr and Mrs C.J. Donald, and Karen, younger daughter of Mr I.C. Cleverley and Mrs H. Woollin.

Mr M.J.F. Ewing and Miss L.C. Stobart

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Mark Ewing, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment), elder son of Mr and Mrs John Ewing, of Venny Tedburn, Devon, and Lucy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alastair Stobart, of Overton, Hampshire.

The Hon Jonathan Harmsworth and Miss C.C. Clemence

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Viscount Rothermere and the late Viscountess Rothermere, of Ile St Louis, Paris, and Claudia, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.J. Clemence, of Wilton Crescent, Belgravia, London.

Mr N. Harrison and Miss L.T.H. Small

The engagement is announced between Neil, elder son of Mr and Mrs Lloyd Harrison, of Dollar, Clackmannanshire, and Leander, daughter of Dr and Mrs Michael Small, of Kemp Town, Sussex.

Mr J.C.F. Howell and Miss L.E. Goodhew

The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Paul Philip Howell, of Burfield Hall, Wymondham, Norfolk, and Lucinda, only daughter of Mr Gordon Goodhew, of Ascot, Berkshire, and Mrs Robert Hollond, of Kensington, London.

Mr F.C. McKibbin and Ms S.E. Butterworth

The engagement is announced between Frederick, son of Mr and Mrs William McKibbin, of New York, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Butterworth, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Luncheon

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Transport, was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry held yesterday at 69 Cannon Street. Mr Brian Harris, president, was host. Among those present were:

Alderman Sir Hugh Bidwell, Sir John Quinton, Alderman Sir Alan Traill, Mr John Collins, Mr John Norton, Mr John Parry and Mr Peter Foy.

Reception

Byron Society

Lord Byron, president, with the Council of the Byron Society received members and guests at a reception held last night at the Royal Institution of Great Britain after Professor Malcolm Kelsall had delivered a lecture to the society. Mr Michael Rees presided and Mr Alexander Bryett also spoke.

Service dinner

Corps of Royal Engineers

General Sir George Cooper, Chief Royal Engineer, presided at a Corps guest night dinner held last night at the Royal Engineers' Headquarters Mess, Chatham, to bid farewell to the Royal Engineers' Postal Courier Service on its transfer to the Royal Logistic Corps.

The John Lyon School, Harrow

Scholarships for September 1993

At 11+: N P Brown, Mount Stewart; J Durrant, Gower House; M A Joseph, Broadfields; L Manmatharajah, St Andrew's; K Mohanadas, Lyon Park; D K Palmer, West Lodge.

At 13+: Music Scholarship: C I E Davies, Quainton Hall. Academic Scholarship: A Ghosh, Alpha.

Church news

Liturgical Commission

The Very Rev David Stancliffe, Provost of Portsmouth, to be Chairman of the Church of England Liturgical Commission, succeeding the Rt Rev Colin James, Bishop of Winchester, who retires from the post in July.

Other appointments

The Rev Bill Baker, Assistant Curate, St Anne, Sale: to be Vicar, St Andrew, Crewe (Chester)

The Rev Simon Baker, Vicar, Shinfield: to be also Principal of the Berkshire Christian Training Scheme (Oxford)

The Rev David Bliss, Assistant Curate, Christ Church, Burntwood and part-time Chaplain, St Matthew's Hospital, Burntwood (Lichfield): to be Team Vicar designate in the proposed Aston Team Ministry w special responsibility for Todwick (Sheffield)

The Rev Peter Bowers, Vicar, River: to be also Rural Dean of Dover (Canterbury)

The Rev Paul Bracher, Assistant Curate, St John, Sparkhill: to be Priest-in-charge, St Richard, Lea Hall (Birmingham)

The Rev Ian Brothwood, Curate, St John w St Francis, Selsdon: to be Vicar, St Alban, South Norwood (Southwark)

The Rev Mark Bulman, non-stipendiary minister, Wootton w Glympton and Kiddington: to be Curate, Carterton (Oxford)

The Rev Nick Bury, Vicar, St Peter-in-Thanet: to be also Rural Dean of Thanet (Canterbury)

The Rev Charles Chadwick, Curate, Great Marlow and Bisham: to be Team Vicar, Team Ministry of Great Marlow w Marlow Bottom, Little Marlow and Bisham, w responsibility for Little Marlow and Bisham (Oxford)

The Rev Roger Clarke, Vicar, High Lane: to be Vicar, St Catherine, Heald Green (Chester)

The Rev John Clements, Curate, St James, Exeter: to be Vicar designate, Withycombe Raleigh Team Ministry (Exeter)

The Rev John Coombs, Assistant Curate, Leverington and Wisbech St Mary: to be Priest-in-charge, Emneth (Ely)

The Rev Stephen Cottrell: to be Diocesan Missioner and Bishop's Chaplain for Evangelism for the diocese of Wakefield

The Rev Peter Dodd, Vicar, Selby St Mary (Selby Abbey): to be full-time Chaplain at Castle Hill Hospital, Cottingham, Hull (York)

The Rev Anthony Eagles, Curate, Marlow Bottom: to be Team Vicar, Team Ministry of Great Marlow w Marlow Bottom, Little Marlow and Bisham, w responsibility for Marlow Bottom (Oxford)

The Rev David Frith: to be Curate, Maidstone All Saints w St Philips (Canterbury)

The Rev David Grimwood: to be Senior Adviser with The Council for Social Responsibility, Maidstone (Canterbury)

The Rev David Hancock, Curate, Maidstone All Saints: to be Priest-in-charge, Sellindge w Monks Horton and Stowting and Lympne w West Hythe (Canterbury)

The Rev Adrian Harbidge, Vicar, Chandler's Ford: to be also Rural Dean of Eastleigh (Winchester)

The Rev David Hodgson, Rector, Loftus-in-Cleveland and Carlin How w Skinningrove: to be Vicar, Middlesbrough, The Ascension (York)

The Rev Canon David Holloway, Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, part-time Chaplain, HM Prison, Bristol, and Hon Curate, St Michael on the Mount Without (Bristol): to be Vicar, St Gregory, Horfield, same diocese

The Rev Paul Holt, Priest-in-charge, Little Marlow w Flackwell Heath: to be Incumbent, benefice of Flackwell Heath (Oxford)

The Rev John Hunt, Rector, Blundeston w Flixton, Lound: to be Priest-in-charge, Kessingland, Gisleham (Norwich)

The Rev Constantion Kaswaya, Anglican Church in Malawi: permission to officiate, diocese Birmingham

The Rev Christopher Kemp, Assistant Curate, All Saints, Cheadle Hulme: to be Assistant Curate, St Saviour, Oxton w special responsibility for St Andrew's Noctorum (Chester)

The Rev Canon Fred Kilner, Rector, Milton: to be also Rural Dean of Quy (Ely)

The Rev Jeffrey Lynn, formerly Chaplain HM Prison, Kirkham: to be Senior Anglican Chaplain, HM Prison, Wakefield (Wakefield)

The Rev John Meek: to continue as Rural Dean of Bridlington (York) for a further period of five years.

University news

Southampton

The following have been appointed to personal chairs:

Dr A G Lee (Biochemistry), Dr D A Ross (Physics), Dr L M Peter (Chemistry).

The honorary title and status of Professor will be conferred on Dr P A Jacobs (Director, Wessex Regional Genetics Laboratory).

Readerships have been conferred on: Dr D A Nicole (Electronics and Computer Science), Dr P Tyler (Oceanography), Dr S M Lewis (Mathematics).

The honorary title of Reader has been conferred on Dr M Cormack (Psychology).

The following promotions to Senior Lectureship have been made: Dr R M Crowder (Electrical Engineering), Dr A Crowley (English), Dr J M East (Biochemistry), Dr D Firth (Mathematics), Dr J G Frey (Chemistry), Dr C J Garland (Physiology and Pharmacology), Dr P A J de Groot (Physics), Dr S J Keay (Archaeology), Dr A P K Meredith (Law), Dr S P Pinch (Geography), Dr R J Pinnington (ISVR), Ms S K Weare (Education), Dr J S Wilkinson (Electronics and Computing Science).

Bath

Sir Denys Henderson, Chairman of ICI, will be installed as the new Chancellor at a ceremony in the Assembly Rooms next Tuesday. Honorary doctorates in law will be conferred on Sir Robin Ibbs, chairman of Lloyds Bank and Raymond Seitz, the American Ambassador. Sir John Wills, Pro-Chancellor of the university will become an honorary Doctor of Letters.

Marriage

Mr R.G.A. Nall and Miss S.H. Wood

The marriage took place on Saturday, March 20, at St Mary's Church, Bibury, of Mr Richard George Aylwin Nall, younger son of Mr and Mrs W.G.J. Nall, of Wellow, Nottinghamshire, to Miss Sarah Helen Wood, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B.J. Wood, of Ablington, Gloucestershire.

Physics medal

Professor David C. Hanna of Southampton University has won the Max Born medal and prize for 1993. The award is given jointly by the Institute of Physics and the German Physical Society.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King Henry II, reigned 1154-89, Le Mans, France, 1133; Joachim Murat, soldier, King of Naples, self-styled Joachim Napoleon, La Bastide-Fortuniere, 1767; Giovanni Amici, astronomer, Modena, Italy, 1786; Arturo Toscanini, conductor, Parma, Italy, 1867; Bela Bartok, composer, Transylvania, Hungary, 1881.

DEATHS: Nicholas Hawksmoor, architect, London, 1736; Anna Seward, the "Swan of Lichfield", poet and novelist, Lichfield, Staffordshire, 1809; Caroline Chisholm, the "emigrants' friend", London, 1877; Frédéric Mistral, poet, Nobel laureate 1904, Maillane, France, 1914; Claude Debussy, composer, Paris, 1918; John Drinkwater, poet and dramatist, London, 1937; Faisal Bin Abdul Aziz, King of Saudi Arabia 1964-75, assassinated, Riyadh, 1975.

Today is Lady Day, until 1752 the legal start of the year.

The Treaty of Rome was signed, bringing into being the European Economic Community, 1957.

Sir Rex Niven

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Rex Niven will be held in the Chapel of St Faith, St Paul's Cathedral on Friday, April 23, at 11.30am.

Sir Dick White

A memorial service for Sir Dick White, KCMG, KBE, will be held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk on Thursday, April 22, at 11am. Admission will be by ticket only. Please apply by letter to Sir Dick White Memorial Service, PO Box 2651, London, NW1 1XZ.

Bernard Braden

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Bernard Braden will be held at St Pauls, Covent Garden, London, WC2, on Wednesday, April 14, at 11.30am.

Appointment

Nicholas Barter to be Principal of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in succession to Dr Oliver Neville.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TEL: 071 481 4000 FAX: 071 481 9313

Lord, the earth is filled with your unfailing love; teach me your statutes.
Psalm 119:64 (REB)

BIRTHS

AGER - On March 22nd, to Jill Johnson and John, a son, Henry Rupert.

ATKINSON - On March 21st, to Clare (née Tear) and Graham, a daughter, Katherine Sarah, a sister for Elizabeth.

CAMERON - On March 20th at The Portland Hospital, to Juliet (May) and James, a daughter, Catherine, a sister for Ella.

CHALK - On Cheltenham Gold Cup Day, Thursday March 18th, to Mary (née Caulfield) and Andrew, a beautiful son, Alexander Dominic.

CROME - On March 22nd, to Ilana and Peter, a son, Benjamin Sacha, a brother for Josh and Susie.

DOWNS - On March 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Erica and Scott, a daughter, Savannah June, a sister for Alexandra and Annabel.

GALPIN - On March 19th, to Nora (née Brosler) and Paul, a son, Iain Alexander Armytage.

GREEN - On March 20th 1993, to Dolores Catterson, wife of Gary M Green, a daughter, Alice Isabelle Rose, a sister for Edward.

HIGGS - On Sunday 21st March 1993, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Lucy (née Middleton) and Philip, a son, Jack Douglas Dryden.

LOCKHART - On 16th March, at Bath, to Elizabeth and David, a daughter, Samantha Blaye, a sister for Cranley.

MORRISH - On March 22nd, to Frances (née Clifford-Jones) and Charles, a daughter, Lucy Alexandra, a sister for Isabel.

MURPHY - On 22nd March, in Stamford, Connecticut, USA, to Ambrose and Nancy, a son, Peter James Henry, 7lbs 1oz.

PARKER - On March 23rd, to Ian and Mandy (née Carder), a son, a brother for Jackson.

PIDSLEY - On 16th March, to Debbie (née Harvey) and Ralph, a daughter, Emma.

RANDLE - On 20th March at Wegberg, Germany, to Brigitte and William, a daughter, Matilda Rose, a sister for Georgina and Jack.

TREGEAR - On 18th March 1993, to Elizabeth (née Burke) and Francis, a son, Theo Benjamin.

WOODHOUSE - On March 20th, to Eugénie (née Romer) and Will, a daughter, Beatrice Kate.

DEATHS

ALLISON - On March 22nd 1993 suddenly whilst on holiday, Charles Baird, much loved husband of Lucy and loving father of Fiona and Morag and devoted grandfather. Service at the Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton, on Friday March 26th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Lions Clubs International Foundation, 257 Alcester Road, South Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 6BT.

ANSON - Suddenly on March 22nd 1993, Robert Philip M.R.C.P., dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral on Saturday April 3rd, 11.30am, Holy Trinity Church, Salcombe, Devon. No flowers but donations, if desired, to British Heart Foundation or Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o John D. Andrews, Funeral Directors, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 1AL.

BARRY - On 23rd March 1993, peacefully at home, Frederick Donal Barry J.P., C.B.E., aged 90 years. Husband of the late Merlina, father of Jo, Tim, Katharine and David and grandfather to many grandchildren. Requiem Mass at Herons Ghyll R.C. Church on Monday 29th March at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Uckfield Hospital League of Friends, New Hospital Appeal, c/o Cooper & Son Funeral Service, Rose Cottage, New Town, Uckfield, East Sussex. tel: (0825) 763763.

BEARE (Morris) - Gwyneth Rosalind née Hill on 23rd March 1993, peacefully at The Hope Nursing Home, Cambridge, fortified by the Sacrament of the Sick and surrounded by her family. Requiem Mass and burial at New Hall Chelmsford at 12 noon on her 90th birthday, Wednesday 31st March.

BUTLER - Tony, died unexpectedly at home on 20th March 1993. Cremation at Mortlake Crematorium on Monday 29th March at 12.30 pm, followed by private family gathering. A tragic loss for his mother, wife, son and daughter.

CHAPMAN - On March 23rd peacefully at home, L.R.H. Late of the Egyptian Ministry of Education and UNESCO. Beloved father of Margaret, Patsy, Dick and grandfather of Richard, Mark, Edward and Jane. Body bequeathed for medical research.

DARBY - On March 23rd, peacefully at home, Thomas George Darby of Catesby, Daventry. Thanksgiving Service at Catesby Church Monday March 29th at 3 pm. Donations if desired to Abbey House, Daventry or Crossroads Care Scheme c/o T. Bodily & Sons, Everdon, Daventry, Northants.

FINCH - John of Hadley Wood, Herts, on March 22nd in hospital, aged 63 years. Treasured husband of Elizabeth and father of Suzanne, Rhona, Caroline, Andrew and Gregory. Funeral Mass at Church of Christ the King, Cockfosters, on Tuesday March 30th at 11 am. Please no flowers. Donations if desired to "R.P.M.S." Haematology Research Fund, AFY5, Hammersmith Hospital, du Cane Road, W12, or "Special Trustees, Leukaemia" c/o Prof. Hoffbrand, Dept. of Haematology, Royal Free Hospital, NW3.

GEN SHAHID HAMID - Peacefully on 12th March after a brief illness at Rawalpindi. Condolences to Shaigan, New Lalazar, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

HARDIE - On Friday 19th March 1993, at his home in Cambridge, Alec aged 74 years. Teacher and Professor of English in Hong Kong, Japan, Ghana and China. The funeral will take place on Tuesday 6th April at 2 pm in the West Chapel at Cambridge Crematorium. Enquiries and floral tributes should be directed to The Co-operative Funeral Service, 34 James Street, Cambridge. tel: (0223) 357046.

LANE - On March 22nd at Worthing Hospital, in his 86th year, Bertie Lane of Pulborough, West Sussex, beloved husband of Jeanne and of the late Phyllis; much loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service at The Church of St Mary, West Chiltington, at 3 pm on Tuesday 30th March to be followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to Queen Alexandra Hospital Home, Gifford House, Worthing, Sussex.

LAWSON Linda - On 23rd March 1993, Linda Lawson (née Neville), most loved wife of Nicholas, mother of Oliver and Matthew and dearest sister of Graham, died peacefully after an enduring illness bravely borne. She will be missed so much. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium at 12 noon on 31st March. Flowers to Winchcombes, 37 New Park Street, Devizes, Wilts.

MUIR - Peacefully in hospital on March 23rd, Finlis aged 77 years. Dear wife of the late Alan and beloved mother of Diana. Mass at St Joseph's Church, Guildford, on Friday March 26th at 10 am followed by cremation. Enquiries to Pimms Funeral Services, Guildford. tel: (0483) 67394.

MURRAY - Peacefully on 20th March, aged 64 years. Baron John Keith Murray of Partos. Husband of Sylvia and father to Avril, Janice, Paul, Laura, Margaret and Bruce. For funeral service details please contact Phillips Funeral Service, St Albans. tel: (0727) 851006.

SIMON - On 23rd March, peacefully in hospital, Vivienne, widow of Derek Simon, much loved mother of Hilary and Richard and grandmother of Jeremy, Graham, Francis, Jenny and Vicky. Funeral 12 noon Wednesday 31st March at Reading Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations if desired for the National Heart Hospital or the Arthritic Association c/o Geoffrey Church & Co., The Broadway, Thatcham, Berks. RG13 4HX.

WINGATE - On 20th March 1993, at home, Sybil Douglas, O.B.E. aged 91. Sister of Monica and the late Rachel, Orde, Constance, Nigel and Granville. Aunt and great-aunt. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, NW11, 12 noon on Tuesday 30th March.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

GRIFFITHS - Eira remembered with love. G.P.C.

ROBINSON - 25th March 1990. In treasured memory of my dear wife Anna. John.

BIRTHDAYS

MR BAGGINS - Happy 40th Birthday, will all my love Bilbo.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOX Tony. Late of R.A.O.C. CPL ret'd. S'pore (and Chase cot 1987). Call Peter Jeanes (if not too drunk to pick up phone) 0923 857031 or Box No 1529

MINKY PERKINS. Flower on "The Rock" 8/13 Apr?. Lost FiloFax: sendSAE 4th. Gym.

Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund

When you leave a legacy to CRMF, you leave behind a living testament of care for people with cancer in the shape of Macmillan Nurses your money has helped to train. For more information about our Macmillan Nurse Appeal or for a copy of our specially produced booklet, "Leave a Legacy of Hope" write to: CRMF, 15-19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TZ, or phone on 071-351 7811.

THE MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL

FIGHTING CANCER WITH MORE THAN MEDICINE

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

MATRON, Ex-public school (or similar eg a mum with grown up kids), offered garden penthouse flat in Mayfair, free meals in pavement Café on premises (or served in flat), required at once to supervise 18 year old boy taking A levels at nearby day school in June. Good salary negotiable. 071-493 4179

COOK/HOSTESS

Required May - October for hospitality unit attending sporting events in the UK and Europe, providing innovative food and outstanding service. Must be fully qualified with quality work experience.

Age 20's, outgoing personality, well educated and presented, car driver, languages an asset.

Please apply with CV and photograph to: Unit 1, The Maltings, Stanstead Abbotts, Ware, Herts SG12 8HG.

FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA Prof f/m, friendly Vict terr hse, on street parking. £280pcm 071 223 3284 after 7pm 0236 868223 daytime.

CHELSEA SW1. Sunny rm in prof hse, gdn. Suit mature M grad. £75 pw inc 071 730 5743

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1970) Professional flat sharing service. 071-589 5491

FULHAM Own room in bright 1st floor flat. All mod cons, garden. £280 pcm. 0708 632492

MUSWELL HILL prof fem lge o/r n/s lux hse & Gdn. Nr park & Br/tube. WE/city 25 mins. £75pw inc. 081-889 2171

PARSONS GREEN 3 mins tube, dble room & own bathrm in lux flat. n/s pref. £90pw. Tel: 071 927 8782 (D) 071 736 0214 (E)

PRIMROSE HILL fab. house on Park. Prof male req. for own dble room, colour TV own tel. line. Weekly service, laundry and free parking. £420 & £378pcm. Tel: 071-722 9849 anseph

QUEENS CLUB GDNS. M/F n/s. own rm in spacious lux flat, newly dec. f/f, tennis & pkng. 2 rms avail. £70/£80pw. 071 405 1546 / 071 385 6206

S. KEN. Large elegant sunny flat. Own bedrm & bath. Garden. CH. Lift. 1 other occasionally. £600 pcm. Tel: 071 589 7824.

STH KEN. Dble room. Close tube, all mod cons, friendly flat. £75 pw. Tel: 071 823 9456

SW11 Delightful single rm/bath, friendly family hse (with young adults), kit, own floor. £60pw inc. 081 673 5605.

W2 Young n/s prof to shr lrg lux sunny Hyde Pk Sq flt. o/r, nr tb. £120 pw. 071 262 4201

FLIGHTS

Prices so cheap... we dare not advertise

Europe: 071-323 1515
071-700 2922
Worldwide: 071-323 4203
America: 071-700 2722
50 lines for your convenience

Flightfile

TOTTENHAM COURT RD W1

FOR SALE

ABC TICKETS Eng V Holland. Carousel. U2. Phantom. Saigon. Cats. 071 497 1407.

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original. Superb presentation. Open 7 days a week. Freephone 0800 906609

ALL AVAIL: Phantom, Les Mis. All concerts Arsenal V Sheff Wed V Utd, Eng V Holl. All soccer 071 460 6185.

AB BEST TICKETS. Phantom, Les Mis, Saigon, U2, football, cricket. 071 839 2122, cc's.

ALL Semi's/Finals. Eng V Holl. theatre, pop, sport. Buy/sell Top prices paid. 071 497 2536.

ALL TICKETS, Rugby, FA Cup, Eng V Hol, Sunset Boulevard, Phantom, U2, Springsteen, Crazy For You. 071-930 0800/925 0085 CCs Accepted.

TICKETS FOR SALE

When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment.

WEDDING MORNING SUITS DINNER SUITS EVENING TAIL SUITS

SURPLUS TO HIRE BARGAINS FROM £50

Lipmans Hire Department 22 Charing Cross Rd London WC2 Nr Leicester Sq Tube.

071 240 2310

ABSOLUTELY ALL TICKETS

COCA COLA CUP
FA CUP
WIMBLEDON, ASCOT
ENGLAND V HOLLAND
ALL THEATRE
ALL POP
ALL SPORT
CC HOTLINE
071 820 1560
071 582 8466

ALL TICKETS FA Cup, & Coca Cola cup (bought & sold) Phantom, Saigon, all sporting events, concerts. Tel 071 287 2701 071 287 2709 Fax 071 734 0660

ALL TICKETS. Phantom daily. Les Mis, Cats, Sunset Blvd, Saigon, England V Holland all sports 071 706 0363 or 0366

AQUIRE Virtually impossible tickets. All theatre and sporting events 081 889 9914 Accs/Visa

CITY TICKET BROKERS, FA Cup semis, Coca Cola cup final, all league games, Eng V Hol, Wimbledon, Ascot, Grand Prix, Cricket, all theatre/sport, concerts. 071 621 9693 (City).

OLD & NEW york, french, & pennant stone flagstones, floor tiles, stone troughs, victorian brick, cobble sets etc. Nationwide deliveries 0380 850039 (Wilts)

PHANTOM, Saigon, Les Mis, football and all other sold out events. Tel: 071 839 5363

THE TIMES - 1791-1990 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". £17.50. Remember When. 081-688 6323.

TICKETS

FA CUP SEMI'S
COCA COLA CUP FINAL
WIMBLEDON '93
ENG V AUS, ASCOT
STING, BON JOVI, U2
Phantom, Saigon,
Joseph, Crazy For You,
All pop, sport & theatre

TEL 071 323 4480

GIFTS

BIRTHDATE NEWSPAPER £18.95 Freephone Tel Now: 0800 591009 9am to 10pm

HOUSES TO LET

ST. JOHNS WOOD - Hamilton close delightful 1 bed mews hse. Rec. sep ff kit, bath, parking. Pretty outlook. n/f £180pw or f/f £200pw. Tel 071 289 1875.

LONDON

KENSINGTON/Hampstead. Luxury serviced apts. Tel 081 461 3094 Fax 081 469 4422

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Service Ltd: 071-730 2201. ABTA 25703 IATA/ATOL 1355.

EASTER bargain holidays & flts. Cyprus, Greece, Spain, Malta, Morocco, Pan World Hols. 071-734 2562 Abta Atol 1438

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. Tel 071-835 4444 Visa/Access: ABTA/AITA.

LOW Fares Worldwide - USA, N/S America, Australia, Far East, Africa. Airline Apprd Agt Travvale, 36 East Castle Street W1. 071 580 2928 (Visa Accept)

PORTUGAL, Canaries. All areas. Villas, apts., Hotels, Golf hols, car hire. Discount flights to Europe, Canada, USA, S.Africa and Worldwide. Longmere Intl. 081-655 1101. ABTA 73196

SCHEDULED and charter flights. 071 630 8672. ABTA 89974

SICILY Special Offer. Classical Sicily 24 April £319 based Villa Athena 4* Agrigento, inc 5 nts H/B rtn flts Gatwick/Catania tfrs, excursions. Sicilian Experience 6 Palace Street SW1E. 071 828 9171 ABTA/ATOL

* IT'S ALL AT TRAILFINDERS *

More low cost flights via more routes to more destinations than any other agency.

PLUS

* Up to 60% discount on hotels and car hire *

* The best deals on the world's finest airlines *

42 - 50 Earls Court Road, London, W8 6EJ

Long Haul Flights 071 938 3366
USA/Europe Flights 071 938 3232
1st & Business Class 071 938 3444
Manchester Office 061 839 6969
Government Licensed/Bonded
ATOL 1458 IATA ABTA 69701

هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

SIR JOHN McMICHAEL

Sir John McMichael, FRS, cardiologist, died on March 3 aged 88. He was born on July 25, 1904.

JOHN McMichael was one of the pioneers of clinical science and an innovative cardiologist. At the end of the second world war he was one of the younger generation of medical teachers in London who set out to place the capital fairly and squarely on the map as a medical post graduate centre — particularly for men and women from the Commonwealth and the United States. For 20 years, from 1946 to 1966, he was Professor of Medicine and director of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School of London at Hammersmith, then becoming director of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation.

In this he was outstandingly successful. Hammersmith might have been as inaccessible a spot for a postgraduate medical school as anyone could have chosen but McMichael made the best of it, and was largely responsible for establishing its reputation as one of the great postgraduate medical centres of the country. His major publication in this period was his *Pharmacology of the Failing Human Heart* which appeared in 1951, but he also made numerous contributions to learned journals, in cardiac and cognate fields. With this background his ultimate move to directorship of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation, a post he occupied from 1966 to 1971, was particularly apposite. Here he spent useful and profitable years, consolidating the work of his predecessors and playing a leading part in guiding the burgeoning of medical postgraduate education which marked the 1970s.

It was a period in which the management of heart attacks saw the death-rate from the condition cut by half, an achievement of which he was justly proud. At the same time, in a period when there was a tendency for young doctors to think of themselves as "doing good in the community" before being medical scientists, he remained resolutely of the old school. Caring attitudes and kindness to patients, he sternly reminded his young colleagues at the opening of the World Congress of Cardiology in London in 1970, of which he was president, were no substitute for the application of detailed scientific knowledge to medical conditions. The best medical care would always be based on a profound knowledge of organic disorders.

John McMichael was educated at Kirkcudbright Academy and Edinburgh University, where he graduated in 1927, winning the Ettles Scholarship as the outstanding medical graduate of the year. Six years later he was awarded a gold medal for his MD thesis.

With a brilliant undergraduate career behind him, John McMichael let it be known that a career specialising in the then still novel branch of



medicine that had been labelled clinical science was his aim in life. His research interests were predominantly in the field of cardiology and included important contributions to the understanding of the mechanism of the failing heart and of high blood pressure. He was the first man in Britain to apply the technique of cardiac catherisation, a method through which he made a major contribution to diagnostic accuracy in heart surgery.

In due course he migrated to London, where he held a Beit Memorial Fellowship at University College Hospital.

Subsequently he was awarded the Johnston and Lawrence Fellowship of the Royal Society, and joined the staff of the department of medicine at what was to become the Royal Postgraduate Medical School of London, at Hammersmith. With the traditional determination of Scotsmen, McMichael never deviated from what was to him the straight and narrow path of duty. And a combination of native shrewdness and intellectual ability allowed him in large part to achieve his ambition. He may not have become a leader of men and, as so often happens, his undergraduate academic brilliance may not have betokened that touch of genius that is necessary for brilliance in research work later in life. But he achieved high office and he acquired an international reputation in the field of postgraduate medical education.

Academic and professional honours fell on him thick and fast. He was awarded honorary degrees by the universities of Edinburgh, Melbourne, Newcastle, Birmingham, Sheffield, Dublin and Columbus (Ohio). In 1957 he was elected FRS and other awards bestowed on him were the Cullen Prize of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and the Moxon Medal of the Royal College of Physicians of London. He was knighted in 1965.

He was twice married, first, in 1942, to Sybil E. Blake, by whom he had four sons. She died in 1965 and he married, secondly, Sheila M. Howarth.

MICHAEL CLARK HUTCHISON

Michael Clark Hutchison, Conservative MP for Edinburgh South from 1957 to 1979, died on March 21 aged 79. He was born on February 26, 1914.

MICHAEL Clark Hutchison, member of a notable Scottish legal and political family, was not a man for extravagant gesture but on the early morning of July 13, 1962, he stopped the London-bound night sleeper by pulling the communication cord south of Edinburgh. He had just read in an early edition of *The Scotsman* that Harold Macmillan had sacked one third of his cabinet, including Jack Maclay, the Scottish Secretary, to whom Hutchison was parliamentary private secretary.

His decision to return to Edinburgh, even if it meant halting an express train, was an indication of his strength of feeling. He was shocked by the extent of the Macmillan massacre and felt his place was at St Andrew's House while Maclay, later Viscount Muirshiel, was clearing his desk. Hutchison put a high value on loyalty. He was loyal to his political master on this occasion and throughout his life he felt a particular loyalty to the Commonwealth. This led him to fight against British entry into the European Common Market. His loyalty to the Union made him in turn a leading opponent of Scottish devolution.

Hutchison, son of Sir George Clark Hutchison, a notable KC of his day who sat for North Midlothian in the 1920s, was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. He was called to the Bar in 1937. He soon started a commercial career, however, and was employed first in South America and then in Australia. When war was declared he decided to make for the nearest recruiting office instead of returning to England and enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces as a private. He served as corporal



and sergeant before gaining a commission. He had an adventurous war, seeing active service first in the Western desert and then in New Guinea, and ended as a major in the Australian military mission in Washington.

On demobilisation he again turned his back on the law and joined the colonial service. He was an assistant district commissioner in Palestine and served later in Aden, originally as political officer and eventually as assistant secretary. Hutchison was a resolute right-winger on most things even in those days, but those who served with him said that his doubts about British policies in both countries revealed a surprisingly liberal turn of mind.

He left the colonial service to fight the hopeless Motherwell constituency in 1955 but was successful in winning the nomination for the safe seat of Edinburgh South in a by-election in 1957. In the Commons he spoke seldom but always with the authority of a carefully prepared brief.

He introduced several private member's bills, mostly dealing with legal matters in Scotland. In addition to being parliamentary private secretary to Jack Maclay he was at various times PPS to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, the Civil Lord of the Admiralty and the Lord Advocate.

Although normally an ultra-dependable member of his party he voted against British entry to the European Community in 1971. His Australian experiences had made him a vigorous Commonwealth man and he resented what he regarded as the betrayal of the white dominions. He was instrumental in founding the organisation called Scottish Conservatives Against the Treaty of Rome. During the referendum debates on Scottish devolution he was one of the 16 Scottish MPs who remained in resolute opposition.

In 1978 he announced his retirement from the Commons after it had become clear that he would have difficulty in being readopted in Edinburgh South. It may be that his uncharacteristic rebellion against Europe resulted in his failure to receive the knighthood which then, as now, was the customary reward for slavish subservience to the whips.

He involved himself closely with the fate of the Falklands. He pleaded with successive governments to make clear to Argentina that the sovereignty of the islands was not negotiable. When he retired from the Commons he continued to support the cause of the islanders, both before and after the invasion of 1982. Again, his feelings were influenced by his previous career. As a former colonial officer he felt the islanders should never be abandoned.

For a short period he sat in the House alongside his brother, Sir Ian Clark Hutchison, MP for Edinburgh West from 1941 until 1959. Both were similar in appearance, style and political beliefs. Sir Ian, now 90, is still active.

Hutchison was married in 1937 to Anne Taylor, a clergyman's daughter. They met when she was at Girton and he was at Trinity and their outstandingly happy marriage ended only with her death in 1989. They had a son and a daughter.

GEORGE MOORE

George Moore, first vice-chancellor of Bath University, died on March 6 aged 89. He was born on June 1, 1903.

THE work of George Moore spanned a remarkable era in British higher education. He attended King Edward's School, Bath, then studied at one of the last surviving privately funded schools of pharmacy, the Bath College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, where he obtained his FPS in 1928. When in 1929 the college failed financially its pharmacy teaching was taken over by the Merchant Venturer's Technical College in Bristol. Moore was then appointed lecturer in pharmaceutical chemistry there.

The faculty of engineering of Bristol University shared this building, with the late Professor Andrew Robertson, FRS, unusually holding the dual posts of dean of the faculty, and principal of the Technical College. In 1938 Moore became head of science, and in 1950 vice-principal, of what had now become Bristol College of Technology, funded by the city. He had gained valuable experience from being involved with the two different groups of staff and students, and learnt much about academic leadership from Robertson, and from the late Sir Phillip Morris, the vice-chancellor of Bristol University, who offered friendly advice and guidance. Bristol



University recognised the contribution Moore had made to the harmonious operation of the sharing of a building and resources, by the award of an honorary MSc in 1953.

In 1954 the city of Bristol expanded the college, now the Bristol College of Science and Technology — and appointed Moore as its principal. This gave him his first major opportunity for his administrative and leadership skills, in bringing three colleges together on a new site to occupy the converted Muller's Orphanages, and integrating them to form an institution capable of awarding the new "Diploma in Technology". The minister of education in 1956, in response to the demand for an increase in higher technological education, designated nine "Colleges of Advanced Technology" including Bristol. A further demand on Moore's administrative skills came in 1962 when these colleges were transferred from local to central funding, each with an independent governing body, a complex transition which he organised effectively.

This was a stage in the growth of the college when critical staff appointments particularly at senior level, had to be made in order to establish its long-term potential. Moore took this aspect of his responsibilities very seriously, giving much time and attention to the selection and appointment of the most promising younger candidates.

The Robbins committee report on higher education in 1963 recommended that the Colleges of Advanced Technology should be designated as technological universities. This meant a move to a new site, and after the City of Bristol rejected a chosen site, Moore, with two industrial governors, and one academic governor, started exploring many sites.

Attending a concert at his old school in Bath, he mentioned his difficulties to Dr Brand, director of education in Bath (in those pre-Avon days). His response was immediate, and within days the offer of 200 acres of the city's school playing-fields was made, and finally confirmed, though only by a small margin of council votes.

Moore's great talents for setting up a large organisation came to the fore. He devoted himself to securing the finances from the University Grants Committee, the selection of the architects and builders, the physical planning, and dealing with the planning committee of the design-conscious Bath, which as a "local boy" he could handle well. He also coped with the transfer of over 2,000 students and staff from Bristol to Bath in a phased move over three years.

He led his staff in the planning of the organisation of the academic structure of the new university, which was highly innovative, and delegated much responsibility downwards. He had a quiet ability to obtain a consensus after many conflicting views had been put forward, and he was accessible to all levels of staff. He concentrated particularly on involving the student bodies, a policy which resulted in Bath being free of the student unrest which beset many other universities a few years later.

With the granting of the charter in 1966 he became vice-chancellor, and the university members were pleased in 1968, as a mark of their admiration for all that he had done to establish the new buildings on a superb site, to award him an honorary LLD.

Moore retired the following year. He had recognised the importance of good relations with the city, and encouraged the setting-up of many joint "town/gown" societies. He and his wife Dora had been stalwart supporters of the thriving gardening club, with its regular meetings in the university, which they continued to enjoy in retirement.

George Moore had suffered much pain for many years with increasingly disabling arthritis, but had always maintained a cheerful and pleasant relaxed manner. The week before he died he talked with pleasure about the very high rating in research and teaching, and the maximum funding, just awarded to Bath University, a tribute to the foundations he had laid. The landscaped campus with over £30 million spent on buildings is a fitting memorial to a modest man who achieved so much. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

MARK HUGHES

Mark Hughes, Labour MP for Durham from 1970 to 1983 and for the City of Durham from 1983 to 1987, died on March 19 aged 60. He was born on December 18, 1932.

MARK Hughes, regarded as future ministerial material from the moment he entered the Commons as one of the brightest members of the 1970 intake, has died after a career which never fulfilled its early promise. His centre-right views did not help him at a time when his party was veering towards the left. But a drink problem which led to several court appearances caused increasing worry to his friends. He decided not to seek re-election in 1987.

Hughes's father, the son of a Staffordshire miner, became Professor of History at Durham University and it was this city which provided Hughes with his education and a seat which he held for 17 years. After Durham School he went to Balliol, where he joined the Labour party. For a period he seemed destined to follow his father as an academic.

After obtaining his PhD at Newcastle, and lecturing at Manchester, he became a lecturer in economic history at Durham from 1960 to 1970. He was returned for Durham in 1970, the year of the Heath election triumph, and spent four years in Opposition while obtaining a reputation as a high-flyer. (One of those whom he particularly impressed was the late Dick Crossman, who, characteristically, once claimed to have recognised in him an early version of himself.) His almost universal good reputation at Westminster did not, though, extend to his constituency party, and he had some trouble in getting re-selected before Labour's victory in the first election of 1974.



He was appointed almost immediately parliamentary private secretary to Joel Barnett, then Chief Secretary to the Treasury and later Lord Barnett. From 1975 to 1979 he also served as a member of the European Parliament and, although this external commitment may have deprived him of any immediate prospect of office, it was during this period of his dual mandate that he first came to be regarded as an expert on agriculture. He was appointed an Opposition spokesman on agriculture in 1980 and held the post, with increasing success, until 1986, though he continued to have trouble with his local party.

There was an attempt to remove him on the ground that he had neglected his constituents by moving his home to the Home Counties. Nor did his support for Denis Healey against Tony Benn in the 1981 deputy leadership election help him locally: to his left-wingers it seemed to prove that he was moving steadily to the right. He was fiercely opposed to Militant and there was yet another bid to de-select him before the 1983 election.

He survived yet again, however, and it was not until the approach of the 1987 election, with the boundary changes also making his life complicated, that he became the first member of Neil Kinnock's frontbench team to announce his retirement from the Commons rather than endure yet another bruising re-selection process. By that time, though, his promise appeared to be dying as visibly as his enthusiasm for the life of politics. He was the kind of Opposition MP — government, no doubt, would have been a different story — who tended to find his greatest fulfilment away from the torrid atmosphere of the Palace of Westminster.

He was a valued member of the executive committee of the British Council, serving as its vice-chairman for seven years, and he was also a member of the general advisory council of the BBC, 1976-84. But he never lived up to his early academic attainments in terms of writing, having no published works to his name.

He was married in 1958 to Jennifer Boobyer, and she survives him, together with their son and two daughters.

THE obituary (March 24) of Franco Nogueira, a former Portuguese foreign minister, was wrongly illustrated by a photograph of Vasco Vieira Garin, who was Portugal's representative at the United Nations.

PERSONAL COLUMN

RENTALS

A.M.A. INTERNATIONAL Luxury flats for long, short or holiday lets. Mayfair, Pimlico Area and Hyde Park. 071 724 4944

ACCOMMODATION urgently required for prof female to share. Call 071-381 6614 t

ALLEN BATES & CO have a selection of furnished flats, 1 bedroom upwards in Central London area. Available for lets of 1 week plus. £350pw-plus. 071-436 6666.

APT W1/Mayfair Ex diplomats flats/letture 4 bd 2 b 2 rec £1,570pcm or £495pw 7243611

Bayswater W2 Lux flats avail for holiday or permanent stay. From £150pw. 071 724 6488

BATTERSEA PK Delightful 1 bed, 1 sitting room, bath, kitchen flat, beautifully furnished, 1 min trains/park. £600 pcm. Tel: 071 228 1617.

BAYSWATER W2 Lux flat, dble bed, recep, blt. diner, bath, ch. hr, only £150pw 071 229 6597

BAYSWATER Attractive flat with balcony 1 bed rec kit bath £188pw 071 402 3337 t

BELGRAVIA Stunning fully fitted 2 Bed flat with maids. Landlord keen to let £300pw Interlets 071 828 3666

ECCLESTON SQ. Elegant/ spacious ground floor apartment. £1200 pcm. 071-821 5889

FREE LIST Chelsea/Knightsbridge/Belgravia/Kensington & Hampstead. All areas. £50pw-£3,000pw 071 733 7134

PROPERTIES OF THE DAY
£1 studio £130 071 370 3946
N6 Share £95 081 969 7928
N16 Bed £225 081 969 8697
NW3 2bed £250 071 722 1849
SE6 1bed £100 081 698 9475
SW3 2bed £280 071 622 0648
SW20 Str £100 081 947 0106
W8 studio £80 071 727 9401
W14 2bed £170 071 603 0640
Landlords £49.95 will advertise your property till let

SHORT LET REQ APRIL Fltb 3/4 weeks
A Large spacious and high-quality flat/house is required for the above period in COVENT GARDEN, SOHO or any other WEST END Location
CALL 071 7349148 (Nikki Stolberg)

RENTALS

FW GAPP (Management Services) Ltd Require properties in central, north & west London areas for waiting applicants. Tel: 071-262 0964.

HAMPSTEAD NW3. Elegant furnished flat with lovely period features close to village centre. 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 ensuite), double recep, fitted kitchen, private garden. £350 pw. 0844621 6414

KENSINGTON/EARL'S COURT 2 dble bed flats, recep, lf and ht, bath + shwr sep wc, rf terr ch tube £260pw 071 409 7822t

KEW Richmond 2 dbl bed flat, furn, close tube/rail, patio £140pw 081 940 2145 eves

MARYLEBONE W1 Ground floor mod 1 bed flat with terrace, fitted kitch £220pw Allen Bates & Co 071 436 6666

NOTTING HILL - lux gar, 1 dbl bed, wsh/dry, ch, sole person, £110 pw. 071 498 6080.

N1 (Barbican) 2 bed 2 bath flat, f/furn & equipped £200pw Drury 071 379 4816

PIMLICO Bright spacious 2 bed 2 bath flat, f/f kit., garden sq + tennis courts near tube barnets at £240pw 071 221 2461 t

PIMLICO/WESTMINSTER Approx 2 bed flat (dble + multi), f/f kit. bath + shwr, close tube £198pw 071 409 7822 t

REGENTS PARK Lux 1 bed flat newly furn 5th flr lift porter entry/ph. 1 min tube. £160pw. Min 6 months let. W071-575 9077/071-486 2989

ROOF TERRACE in Marylebone with 3 rooms k & b attached chalets. Flats from £260pw. 071-486 4577

SELECTION of luxury 3 bed, 2 bath apartments in Marylebone, South Hampstead & St Johns Wood. £450pw - £800pw. 071-486 4027

W. HAMPSTEAD, pr flt/hse, newly dec, 2 bed f/f flat, wash/drier. £175 pw. 0923 889195

SERVICES

JOLLY ROGER Corporate stays for 50-500. Mk/Hnly easy access. 300 acres. Every facility. Tel: 0628 661800.

PLUMB PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are young or prefer a young partner ring 0898 760919.

WANTED

HAIRDRESSER Health & Beauty School in South Carolina, USA seeks highly motivated hairdresser skilled in teaching salon-savvy. Must be willing to travel throughout the state. Interested individuals should send a photo, letter and CV to CLOC, 1910-B Second Loop Road, Florence, South Carolina 29501, USA.

OLD OIL Paintings and watercolours wtd, Condition immaterial. Oregon Galleries 071 259 9618.

WINTER SPORTS

AARE Free lift pass. Chalets March/ April. Top resorts. Depart any day & weekend skiing. White Rec 071 792 1181.

CATERED Chalets. Unbeatable Easter offers from £159 pp inc. ski. Total 081 948 6922.

LATE Availability, Courchevel 1850, Zermatt, Gstaad, Verbier. For luxury holidays at crazy prices call Ski Sunt Dunn 081-767 0202. ABTA O5668.

MERIBEL Chalet specialists SkiWeLair grp avail Mar/Apr. Carbon free - starting in Jan chalets. 071 328 5775.

SKI Verbier Ideally sited lux flat sips 6. Available now & Easter. Ft £20 p-p-p. 0494 481300.

You helped us in ASSOCIATION now help us in ACTION

London Association for the Blind has changed its name. Now we're working even harder to provide better services to blind or partially sighted people; at our care homes, through employment or cash help for those in need. A donation or covenant now and a legacy later will make it all possible

action for blind people

Ref TT, 14-16 Verney Road, London SE16 3DZ. Telephone: 071-732 8771

London Association for the Blind Registered Charity No.205913

DIALYSIS AND TRANSPLANTATION THEIR ONLY HOPE

Life saving treatment is known but unavailable through lack of funds and donor kidneys to thousands of British's kidney patients.

Please help us grant a reprieve for some of them this year.

Donations to:

THE BRITISH KIDNEY PATIENT ASSOCIATION Bexton, Hants

BARBICAN

Unfurnished 3 bedroom accommodation for rent. Rents from approx £12,000pa which include all services & background heating.

Daytime call 071 628 4848 or 071 628 4341.

Evening call 071 628 4573.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL NOTICES
£6.46 per line inc. VAT (min 3 lines)

Tel: 071 481 4000 Fax: 071 782 7827

By Post: Classified Advertising, Level 5, Times Newspaper, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9DD.

Booking Deadlines:-
Monday - 1.00pm Saturday
Tuesday - Friday 5.00pm day prior
Saturday 4.30pm Friday

Please have a major credit card ready when placing your notice as prepayment is required.

We accept ACCESS, AMEX, DINERS & VISA.

COURT & SOCIAL, FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES and WEDDINGS
On Court Page £11.75 per line inc VAT.

Tel: 071 782 7347 Fax: 071 481 9313

By Post: Court & Social Advertising, Level 5, Times Newspapers, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9BD

Booking Deadline:- 2 working days prior to publication.

Please include in all correspondence a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent, your address with daytime and home telephone numbers (if different).

ON THIS DAY

March 25 1880

In this strange case, a London physician was convicted of forging a Home Office reprieve on behalf of a man about to be executed for child murder.

A very singular case was decided yesterday in the Central Criminal Court. Dr. Whiteford, a physician practising in London, was convicted on his own admission of forging a document purporting to be a reprieve issued from the Home Office on behalf of a criminal named Charles Shurety, who lay under sentence of death in Newgate for the murder of a child. The prisoner pleaded guilty in the course of the proceedings, though at first he had seemed disposed to deny the charge. It appears that Dr. Whiteford had taken great interest in Shurety's case, and had become painfully excited over it. He had convinced himself that the crime for which Shurety was convicted was really only one of manslaughter, and had exerted himself to get the sentence of death commuted. With this object he had entered into communication with the Home Office, and on the day before the execution he had sought an interview first with Mr. Cross and afterwards with Mr. Liddell, the Under-Secretary, without success. On January 5, the morning of the execution, Mr. Smith, the Governor of Newgate, received a letter purporting to come from the Home Office and countermanding the execution. Preparations were at that moment being made for carrying the sentence into effect, and Mr. Smith, having consulted with the other officials present, came to the conclusion that the letter was a forgery, and allowed the execution to proceed. When the letter was subsequently examined, it was found to be in the same handwriting as the communications which Dr. Whiteford had addressed to the Home Office, and accordingly that gentleman was indicted on a charge of forgery. As he ultimately pleaded guilty, the evidence against him was not produced. It was alleged in his defence that his mental balance had been upset by the excitement caused by his advocacy of Shurety's case, and that he could not be held responsible for his actions. This line of defence, however, was not persisted in, as it was pointed out by Mr. Justice Denman, who tried the case, that it would result in the confinement of Dr. Whiteford during Her Majesty's Pleasure; and as the counsel for the prosecution only claimed a conviction for an offence of misdemeanour at common law, sentence was passed to that effect, and Dr. Whiteford was condemned to pay a fine of £50 and to undergo two months' imprisonment without hard labour. The sentence passed on Dr. Whiteford is light in itself, though it may be heavy in its consequences to a man in his position.

NEWS

South Africa built nuclear bombs

■ South Africa admitted for the first time yesterday that it had built six atom bombs. President de Klerk said they had all been dismantled.

The confirmation of what had long been suspected came at a specially summoned joint meeting of the country's three houses of parliament. The programme had been established in 1974 but only six of the seven planned devices had been completed when it was terminated in 1990 ..... **Pages 1, 14**

Dubliners sign books of condolence

■ People in Dublin turned out in their thousands yesterday to sign books of condolences to be sent to the mayor of Warrington in the wake of the IRA bombings at the weekend. They queued all day at the General Post Office on O'Connell Street, some waiting up to half an hour..... **Pages 1, 3**

Teacher 'raped'

The alleged rape of a teacher by a 13-year-old pupil in a south London comprehensive school yesterday prompted an emergency check on school safety procedures by the London borough of Southwark. The incident, if substantiated, would be the first case in Britain of a teacher being raped by a pupil..... **Pages 1, 3**

Yeltsin manoeuvres

President Yeltsin yesterday dropped the introduction of direct presidential rule he announced at the weekend in a move calculated to ward off preparations by hardliners to impeach him..... **Pages 1, 11**

Press law proposed

Newspapers could be ordered to pay compensation to aggrieved readers and subjected to unlimited fines, under sweeping changes to existing rules for press regulation proposed by the all-party national heritage select committee..... **Pages 1, 5**

Adoption advice

Adoption agencies were advised yesterday not to place children under the age of two with couples who smoke. The advice, from the country's largest adoption charity, drew immediate criticism from Tim Yeo, the health minister, who said adoption was no place for "dogma or ideology" ..... **Page 4**

New city planned

More than 10,000 acres of derelict land either side of the River Thames will be transformed into a city for the 21st century and a "superb bridgehead" into Europe, the government announced yesterday. The project, unveiled by Michael Howard, the environment secretary, is designed to create 100,000 jobs, the same number of homes and 7.5 million sq ft of office space in east London, south Essex and north Kent..... **Page 6**

Bosnia Serbs fight on

Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the international mediators on Bosnia, have acknowledged publicly what has been increasingly obvious for weeks: that the Bosnian Serbs, who are enjoying success on the battlefield, have no intention of signing their peace plan for the former Yugoslav republic soon ..... **Page 10**

Hong Kong fears

Peking took the first step yesterday towards establishing a committee that many people in Hong Kong fear could become a shadow government, crippling the British administration in the years before 1997..... **Page 14**

Suspect spirited out

Mahmud Abu-Halima, 34, a former New York taxi driver who is a prime suspect in last month's bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York, was whisked out of Egypt yesterday by a team of United States federal agents and taken back to America for trial. The cloak-and-dagger operation was confirmed by the Egyptian authorities only after the plane carrying him had taken off..... **Page 15**

Porn channel relishes red hot sales

■ Red Hot Television won the go-ahead in the High Court yesterday to challenge the government's plans to outlaw the pornographic satellite channel. Later Mark Garner, of Red Hot Television, said he was delighted the challenge would go ahead and was also happy with the boost to sales of decoders brought about by the publicity..... **Page 4**



Easy rider: John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, joining hundreds of motorcyclists yesterday on a symbolic ride to Westminster. They want the government to vote against an EC proposal that could ban high performance motorcycle engines

BUSINESS

Record profits: The Halifax Building Society recorded record profits, up from £326 million to £449 million, despite the depressed housing market ..... **Page 23**

Economic view: Anatole Kalestsky urges politicians to be bold in changing policy and to blame their predecessors for the mess they have inherited..... **Page 27**

Markets: Shares recovered from heavy losses in early trading yesterday to end almost unchanged. After suffering a 17.4 point fall the FT-SE 100 index closed down just 0.5 at 2,860.6. The pound closed at $1.4843, up .10 cents, and at DM2.4172, down .59 pfennigs ..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Rowing: The coaching talent working with the Oxford and Cambridge crews for the Boat Race on Saturday would do justice to a national team, but two men have a special responsibility to apply the finishing touches..... **Page 42**

Motor racing: Formula One colleagues Alain Prost and Damon Hill have offered contrasting opinions on the threat posed to their sport by IndyCar racing in the aftermath of Nigel Mansell's triumphant debut..... **Page 44**

Golf: Patricia Davies previews The Players' Championship, which gets underway at Sawgrass in Florida today with its £1.69 million prize money..... **Page 40**

Figuring Oscar: At the age of 65 old uncle Oscar could still be about to spring a few surprises on his favourite nephews and nieces. Sheridan Morley on next week's Academy Awards..... **Page 16**

Moshe's daughter: Yael Dayan, novelist, feminist, left-wing agitator and daughter of the war hero, has become Israel's most controversial politician and some would say the most hated..... **Page 16**

Cruel deception: A popular view is growing in the United States that HIV has nothing to do with the development of Aids. The truth is the opposite ..... **Page 17**

Sex, shopping and opium: Catherine Deneuve stars in the French film *Indochine*, released in Britain this week: a sensuous slice of life in 1930s Saigon..... **Page 33**

Dench goes West: Judi Dench leads the cast of Shaffer's "terrorist play", *The Gift of the Gorgon*, into the West End ..... **Page 34**

Star of India: Vikram Seth's prodigious 1,349-page novel, *A Suitable Boy*, is reviewed by literary editor Daniel Johnson ..... **Page 37**

Merry monarchs: Woodrow Wyatt enjoys Veronica Maclean's tour of the world's reigning crowned heads..... **Page 36**

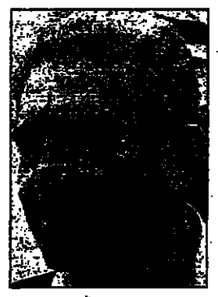
PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, is launching a public relations offensive to prepare the way for big cuts in his department's budget
Page 7



Pamela Harriman, the millionaire grand dame of Democratic fund-raising, is to be nominated as American ambassador to France
Page 15



Ezer Weizman, a former RAF fighter pilot turned peacemaker, was elected president of Israel by the Knesset yesterday
Page 15

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Adieu, Monsieur Rock!

■ David Toop asks what Bruno Lion, the French minister for rock, achieved in his brief but colourful reign

Valerie Grove on Vikram Seth

■ Should we be comparing Vikram Seth to Tolstoy and Proust? Valerie Grove meets the author of *A Suitable Boy*

Under orders for the Flat

■ As the new flat season comes under starter's orders, Richard Evans, *The Times* racing correspondent, reports from Doncaster on all the action

Arthur Daley (George Cole) heads for Australia to claim an unexpected inheritance in *Minder* (ITV, 8.30pm). But there are rival claimants..... **Page 43**

A fine mess

The heritage committee's report on the press is a muddle wherein ill will, good intentions and careless disdain squat uneasily side by side. It is no less threatening to essential liberties than was the Calcutt report—and, because of the manner in which it has been produced, may yet be all the more dangerous than its predecessor..... **Page 19**

Green shoots

At a popular level Mrs McHugh and the thousands of Dubliners who sign their condolences outside the General Post Office in O'Connell Street, the site of the 1916 Easter Rising, may help to exorcise Ireland's ghosts..... **Page 19**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Maastricht is a federal treaty for a federation that does not exist, based on assumptions about German power that have already been contradicted by events ... the main significance of the treaty is that it prevents serious discussion of the European response to the real issues..... **Page 18**

PHILIP HOWARD

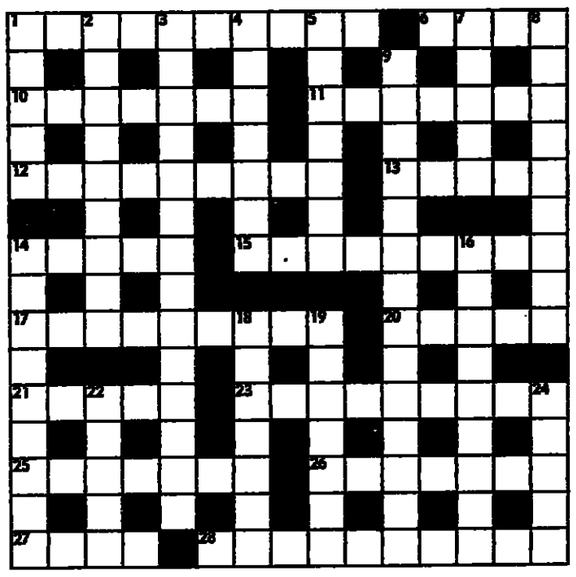
A world in which everybody pronounced English in the same way would be a nightmare dystopia. Luckily, this will never happen. In spite of its wild regional and class variant pronunciations and stresses, English is a lazy language to speak. It does not deploy as wide a variety of the vocal organs as other languages..... **Page 18**

Correspondents differ on whether a young man charged with computer hacking should have been acquitted after a defence of "obsession"..... **Page 19**

The Russian people have far greater authority than any parliamentarians chosen under the old Brezhnev constitution. But the risk here is that they will vote not on democracy but on the quality of personal and national life they have experienced with Mr Yeltsin as president. He is vulnerable to a flood of citizen grievances. This is what makes it necessary for Mr Clinton and others to go beyond symbolic politics into the concrete realm of foreign aid

The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,187



ACROSS

1 Job tenure (10).
6 Shut when out for this reason (4).
10 Enthusiastic song by a beginner (7).
11 Made inaudible speech backing new journalist (7).
12 Confused and completely rejected (6,3).
13 In Troy a lady of exeptional quality (5).
14 Sea-island cotton, originally produced by a specialist, perhaps (5).
15 Fostering a new way of planting trees (9).
17 She paints exceptional performers (9).
20 Beginning to be supported by a collection (5).
21 Prepare to mount (3,2).
23 Studied by many trapped in farm drudgery (9).
25 Paddy is half hesitant — odd! (7).
26 More than one language produces staccato effects (7).
27 Contrary humour of a bad lot (4).
28 Sort of valve intended, say, as a regulatory device (10).

DOWN

1 Young hunter providing light for Hiawatha's wigwam (5).
2 Transport free, for example, when turning round (9).
3 Well-known book had the best essays about Hamlet once (8,6).
4 Rate to measure in blood (4,3).
5 Superannuated minister loses car, being an O.A.P. (7).
7 Female line established by king (5).
8 Incidental information to note with pleasure (9).
9 Notes written in harmony (14).
14 Relaxed gait, timed unofficially (9).
16 Found in society (9).
18 Goddess at Reims undergoing metamorphosis (7).
19 Article removed from feature on artillery ranges (7).
22 Mounting not complete round painting (5).
24 Record featuring unknown composer (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,186

T	U	L	S	A		C	O	C	K	F	I	G	H	T
R		A		I		R		H		R		O		A
A	F	T	E	R	L	I	F	E		O	I	L	E	R
N		H		Y		M		E		W		F		O
S	H	E	L	F		S	P	R	I	N	G	L	E	T
C		A		O		I		I						
E	M	O	T	I	O	N		O	C	E	A	N	I	C
N		P		R						A		K		O
D	I	P	T	Y	C	H		P	E	R	U	S	A	L
		R		O		A		T				O		
S	P	E	C	T	A	T	O	R		H	Y	P	E	S
E		S		H		S	L	L		L		S		
R	I	S	E	R		P	L	E	T	I	T	U	D	E
I		O		O		U		Y		N		T		U
F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S		G	R	O	O	M

Concise Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Fine, dry and sunny, apart from some early light rain over northwest Scotland and the occasional shower over East Anglia. Patchy cloud will develop by afternoon, but there will be sunny spells in most areas. Winds will be generally light, and temperatures above seasonal normal. Outlook: fine and settled, but becoming windy with some rain in northwest Scotland on Saturday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle, fg=fog; s=sun, sl=sleet, sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	16	59	f	Madrid	17	63	f
Alcobri	21	70	s	Majorca	20	68	f
Alex'dria	18	64	s	Malaga	21	70	s
Algiers	23	73	s	Malta	20	68	s
Amst'dm	9	48	f	Melb'rne	18	64	f
Athens	19	66	s	Mexico C*	22	72	c
Bahrain	30	68	s	Miami*	27	81	c
Bangkok	33	91	s	Milan	11	52	d
Barbads*	29	84	f	Montreal*	0	32	s
Barcelna	12	54	d	Moscow	2	36	sn
Beirut	19	66	s	Munich	6	43	r
Belgrade	13	55	f	Nairobi	26	79	s
Berlin	8	46	f	Naples	16	61	f
Bermuda*	21	70	f	N Delhi	25	77	s
Biarritz	10	50	s	N York*	4	39	c
Bordx	12	54	s	Nice	14	57	c
Brussels	9	48	s	Oslo	5	41	f
Budapst	11	52	f	Paris	11	52	f
B Aires*	30	86	s	Peking	17	63	s
Cairo	23	73	s	Perth (aus)	21	70	c
Cape Tn	30	86	s	Prague	7	45	f
Chicago*	6	43	c	Reykjavik	-1	30	f
Ch'church	16	61	s	Rhodes	18	64	s
Cologne	9	48	f	Rio de J	33	91	s
C'phagn	7	45	f	Riyadh	23	73	s
Corfu	15	59	s	Rome	16	61	f
Dublin	9	48	f	Salzburg	4	39	r
Dubrovnik	16	61	c	S F'isco*	14	57	r
Faro	21	70	s	Santiago*	28	82	s
Florence	14	57	f	S Paulo*	27	81	c
Frankfurt	9	48	f	Seoul	6	43	r
Funchal	19	66	f	Sing'por	31	88	f
Geneva	5	41	r	St'holm	5	41	r
Gibraltar	18	64	s	Strasb'rg	10	50	f
Helsinki	4	39	c	Sydney	23	73	s
Hong K	27	81	f	Tangier	20	68	f
Innsbrck	4	39	r	Tel Aviv	25	77	s
Istanbul	16	61	s	Tenerife	22	72	s
Jeddah	30	86	s	Tokyo	15	59	f
Jo'burg*	21	70	f	Toronto*	1	34	r
Karach'i	29	84	s	Tunis	21	70	f
L Palmas	21	70	s	Valencia	17	63	f
Le Touet	8	46	s	Vanc'ver*	10	50	f
Lisbon	18	64	f	Venice	12	54	r
Locarno	11	52	r	Vienna	10	50	c
London	8	46	c	Warsaw	7	45	s
L Angels*	16	61	c	Wash'ton*	7	45	f
Luxembg	8	46	f	Wel'ton	17	63	f
Luxor	29	84	s	Zurich	5	41	r

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 11C (52F): min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Humidity: 6pm, 38 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 7.9hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,029.8 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Salcombe, Devon, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Tiree, Strathclyde, 0.28in; highest sunshine: Salcombe, 11.2hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 9C (48F); min 6pm to 6am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.02in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 7.9hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 10C (50F): min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.7hr.

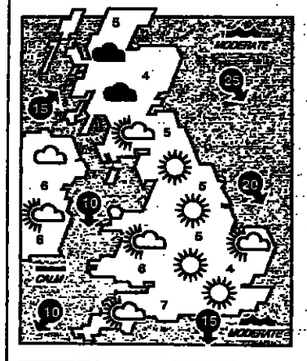
UK TOWNS

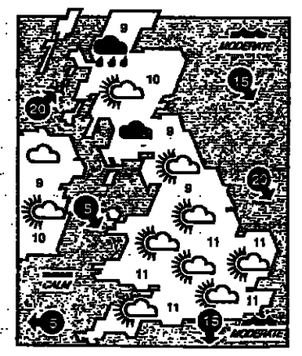
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	7.0	0.03	7	45	shower
Anglesey	9.4	-	10	50	sunny
Aviemore	5.8	0.04	6	43	snow
Belfast	5.9	0.07	9	48	hail
Binningham	7.1	-	10	50	sunny
Bognor Regis	9.7	-	11	52	sunny
Bournemouth	8.4	-	11	52	sunny
Bristol	8.9	-	11	52	sunny
Buxton	4.8	-	7	45	bright
Cardiff	9.0	-	10	50	sunny
Clacton	7.4	-	10	50	sunny
Edinburgh	8.7	-	10	50	sunny
Eskdalemuir	8.5	0.07	8	46	hail
Exmouth	10.7	-	11	52	sunny
Falmouth	10.2	-	11	52	sunny
Folkestone	8.6	0.01	11	52	shower
Glasgow	8.7	-	10	50	sunny
Guernsey	10.3	-	11	52	sunny
Hastings	7.2	-	11	52	sunny
Hunstanton	7.1	-	10	50	sunny
Jersey	10.4	-	11	52	sunny
Kinloss	3.5	0.19	7	45	shower
Leeds	8.1	-	11	52	sunny
Lerwick	3.3	0.25	3	37	snow
Littlehampton	9.0	-	11	52	sunny
Liverpool	9.1	-	9	48	sunny
London	7.9	-	11	52	sunny
Lowestoft	8.0	0.04	8	46	shower
Manchester	7.9	0.02	9	48	sunny
Margate	7.8	-	10	50	sunny
Minehead	9.7	-	10	50	sunny
Morecambe	8.1	-	9	48	sunny
Newcastle	9.3	0.02	11	52	shower
Newquay	8.2	-	9	48	sunny
Nottingham	9.1	-	10	50	bright
Penzance	10.3	-	12	54	sunny
Plymouth	10.5	-	11	52	sunny
Prestwick	7.0	0.03	10	50	shower
Sandown	8.4	-	11	52	sunny
Saunton Snd	9.4	-	10	50	sunny
Scarborough	7.8	-	10	50	sunny
Scilly Isles	10.5	0.02	11	52	sunny
Shanklin	8.0	-	11	52	sunny
Southend	7.8	-	11	52	sunny
Southsea	8.4	-	11	52	sunny
Stornoway	6.8	0.20	7	45	hail
Swanage	8.4	-	11	52	sunny
Teignmouth	10.0	-	12	54	sunny
Tenby	9.5	-	10	50	sunny
Tiree	8.7	0.28	9	48	shower
Torquay	10.7	-	12	54	sunny
Weymouth	10.2	-	11	52	sunny
Wick	5.7	0.20	7	45	shower
Worthing	7.8	-	11	52	sunny

HIGHEST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.00
Austria Sch	18.00	16.50
Belgium Fr	53.00	48.80
Canada $	1.97	1.81
Denmark Kr	9.90	9.10
Finland Mkk	10.0	9.20
France Fr	9.70	8.00
Germany Dm	2.56	2.36
Greece Dr	347.00	322.00
Hong Kong $	12.13	11.13
Ireland Pt	1.045	0.965
Italy Lira	2425.00	2280.00
Japan Yen	189.50	170.80
Netherlands Gld	2.88	2.65
Norway Kr	10.86	10.06
Portugal Esc	235.50	217.50
South Africa Rd	5.45	4.75
Spain Pta	178.00	165.00
Sweden Kr	12.00	11.20
Switzerland Fr	2.36	2.16
Turkey Lira	14500.0	13500.0
USA $	1.575	1.45

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.





LAST 24 HOURS

London 6.22 pm to 5.52 am
Bristol 6.32 pm to 6.02 am
Edinburgh 6.37 pm to 6.02 am
Manchester 6.32 pm to 6.00 am
Penzance 6.43 pm to 6.14 am

Sun rises: 5.52 am
Sun sets: 6.22 pm
Moon rises 6.11 am
Moon sets 9.11 pm
First quarter March 31

YESTERDAY

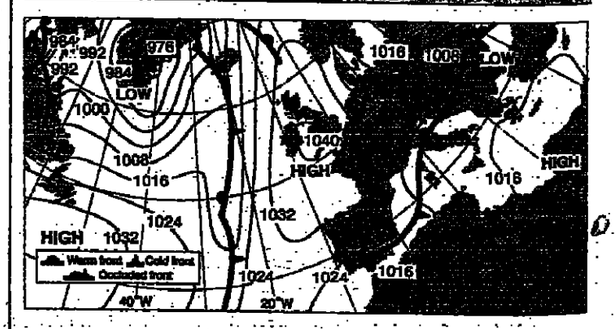
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	8	46	c	Guernsey	9	48	s
B'mgham	8	46	c	Inverness	5	41	c
Blackpool	8	46	s	Jersey	10	50	f
Bristol	9	48	c	London	8	46	c
Cardiff	10	50	f	M'chster	9	48	c
Edinburgh	9	48	s	Newcastle	9	48	s
Glasgow	8	46	f	R'nldsway	7	45	s

TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.53	7.0	3.12	7.0	Liverpool	12.07	9.1	12.22	9.2
Aberdeen	2.23	4.0	2.26	4.1	Lowestoft	10.48	2.2	10.45	2.4
Avonmouth	8.19	12.9	8.32	12.9	Margate	12.53	4.6	1.17	4.6
Belfast			12.05	3.3	Milford Haven	7.20	6.8	7.33	6.7
Cardiff	8.04	11.9	8.17	11.9	Newquay	6.10	8.8	6.23	6.8
Devonport	6.51	5.3	7.06	5.3	Oban	6.49	3.9	6.52	3.9
Dover			12.04	6.3	Penzance	5.49	5.4	6.06	5.4
Falmouth	6.21	5.1	6.38	5.1	Portland	7.50	2.0	8.08	2.0
Glasgow	1.57	4.3	2.15	4.5	Portsmouth	12.10	4.8	12.26	4.5
Harwich	12.46	3.9	1.06	3.8	Shoreham	12.08	6.0	12.18	5.9
Holyhead	11.25	5.4	11.40	5.3	Southampton	11.57	4.4		
Hull	7.24	7.2	7.35	7.5	Swansea	7.23	9.3	7.34	9.2
Ilfracombe	7.03	8.9	7.16	8.9	Tees	4.40	5.0	4.49	5.2
King's Lynn	7.39	6.3	7.48	6.5	Wilton-on-Nze	12.39	4.2	12.59	4.1
Leith	3.42	5.2	3.46	5.3					

WEATHER MAP



Information supplied by Met Office

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1993. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HY, telephone 051-546 2000. Thursday, March 25, 1993. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل



TRAVEL 30;31

Golden chance: religious holidays at Easter



ARTS 33-35

Howard Barker's savage new play opens in London



SPORT 39-44

Florida displays its golfing delights

SIXTEEN PAGES OF JOBS Section 3

5

THE TIMES 2

THURSDAY MARCH 25 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

PROTECT



Lord Alexander, chairman of National Westminster Bank, called for a single retail regulator to protect the private investor
Page 25

PUNCTURE

Anatole Kaletsky warns that the Budget may cause a temporary relapse in the post-ERM recovery that is clearly under way
Page 27

PLUMMET

LASMO

Lasmo lost £185 million in 1992, the first full year of ownership of Ultramar, and is cutting the dividend
Page 24

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4843 (+0.0010)
German mark ... 2.4172 (-0.0059)
Exchange Index ... 78.9 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2860.6 (-0.5)
Dow Jones ... 3465.91 (+4.05)*
Nikkei Avg ... 18450.69 (-40.93)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 6⅛-6⅜
US Federal Funds 2¾%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.92-2.90%*
Long Bond 6.78%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4825*	£:$	1.4835
$:DM	1.6288*	£:DM	2.4137
$:SWfr	1.5080*	£:SWfr	2.2338
$:Ffr	5.5425*	£:Ffr	8.2220
$:Yen	116.85*	£:Yen	173.35
£:SDR	1.0634	£:ECU	1.2446

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 331.30 ..... PM 331.00
Close 331.05-331.55
New York:
Comex 331.65-332.15*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 138.8 February (1.8%)
* Denotes midday trading price



PETER TREVINOR

Halifax draws line against more cuts

BY LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

■ Britain's biggest building society believes a further base rate cut is unlikely and that savers should not suffer further erosion of their investment income

HALIFAX borrowers are unlikely to benefit from any further cut in base rates, the largest building society said yesterday. The society record pre-tax profits of £680 million in the worst year for the housing market since the second world war.

Jim Birrell, chief executive, said he did not expect a base rate cut, but should one happen, the society's first concern would be its savers. "Just as when interest rates rose we shielded the borrowers, if there were an interest rate reduction we would be concerned about the position of investors primarily."

Jon Foulds, the chairman, said: "From late 1992 and into this year, our concerns have also increasingly been for our investors. Falling interest rates have a harsh impact on older investors using interest income to supplement their pensions. We will also need a reasonable flow of retail savings in 1993."

He added that there was no immediate danger of a mortgage rate rise because of the threat from National Savings, which relaunched its FIRST Option Bond on Monday. "We do not want the rapid fall in interest rates over the past several months to lead to a major switch of funds away from traditional savings, or worse still do serious damage to the savings ethic."

Savers were the main reason why the society had not matched all recent base rate cuts with mortgage and savers reductions, he said.

John Wriglesworth, analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew, said: "I do not think mortgage rates will come down more than 0.3 per cent if base rates fell by a full percentage point. If there was a half per cent cut, lenders would not move."

Profits at Halifax, the largest mortgage lender, rose 8 per cent despite a rise in provisions, including suspended interest, to £449 million (£326 million).

Mr Birrell, chief executive, said applications for mortgages had been climbing since January and were now at 1,400 a day. This was more than double last year's low point in September, when applications fell to between 500 and 600 a day.

Retail balances increased by £2.9 billion and the society made more use of wholesale funding. Wholesale balances increased by £1 billion to £8.3 billion and assets by 7 per cent to £62.8 billion.

The society also halved the number of homes it repossessed but only 420 homeowners benefited from the mortgage rescue scheme launched the previous December. The number of people 12 months or more in arrears rose from 18,061 to 22,486.

Mortgage lending dropped by 34 per cent last year but the Halifax increased its share of the market to 18 per cent.

Faring well: Manganese Bronze (MB), the taxi manufacturer, made a pre-tax profit of £577,000 in the six months to end-January after a £500,000 loss in the same period of 1991. Jamie Borwick, left, MB's managing director, noted that 834 taxis were sold during the period, down from 1,054 last time, but the group makes most of its profits from the components division, which makes metal powder and castings for the motor industry — with 30 per cent of sales going to Germany — and contributed £780,000. Mr Borwick said orders for taxis are now running at double the rate seen this time last year. "We make 32 vehicles a week and...can break even at this low level," he said. Vehicle turnover of £22.3 million (£20.7 million) includes six months of MB's Nissan dealership, which lost £3 million on sales. MB, of which Hugh Lang, right, is chairman, is restoring the interim dividend at 0.5p after earnings of 2.19p (2.3p loss).

Buxton gives way on outside chief executive

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ANDREW Buxton, chairman and chief executive of Barclays Bank, has given in to pressure from shareholders and agreed to recruit a chief executive from outside the group.

His decision delighted institutional shareholders, who described it as the "first step" in Barclays' attempts to win back credibility after reporting disastrous 1992 results earlier this month. But they said the bank would have to find a strong contender to run the bank.

Among those tipped as possible candidates are Brian Pearse, Barclays' former finance director, who is now chief executive of Midland Bank. Midland was taken over by HSBC last year and although Richard Delbridge, its finance director, gained a seat on the new HSBC board, Mr Pearse did not.

Two directors at National Westminster, John Melbourn and John Tugwell, who were passed over in favour of Derek Wanless for the chief executive's job, could also be in the running.

Malcolm Williamson, chief executive at Standard Chartered, is likely to be considered and another possible contender is Peter Ellwood, TSB's chief executive, who ran Barclaycard in its profitable days.

Shareholders have spent almost a year lobbying Barclays to split the top job and bring in talent from outside. Mr Buxton took over as chief executive last April and became chairman in January.

Last summer, he strongly resisted institutional pressure to hand over the chairman's job to an external candidate. In January, however, he backed down and said he would split his job.

Mr Buxton at first indicated that he would prefer to appoint one of three internal candidates: Peter Wood, the finance director; Alastair Robinson, head of banking; or David Band, chief executive of BZW. But when Barclays unveiled the first loss in its 97-year history and halved its final dividend, pressure on the bank intensified to look outside.

Barclays has set up a sub-committee, consisting mainly of non-executive directors, to find someone suitable. This meets for the first time next week. The sub-group will be chaired by Sir Denys Henderson, chairman of ICI, who is the non-executive director on Barclays' board who chairs its remuneration and nominations committee.

The other members of the sub-group are Sir Derek Birkin, a non-executive director and also chairman of RTZ; Sir Martin Jacomb, ex-chairman of BZW and former Barclays executive deputy chairman; Sir Peter Middleton, executive deputy chairman; and Sir Nigel Mobbs, a non-executive director who is also chairman of Slough Estates.

A senior director of one large fund management group said the committee had to make the appointment "with some urgency". Another said it should appoint a strong candidate, casting its net wider than just UK clearing banks. Success would be Mr Buxton's key to restoring credibility.

Another senior fund manager said yesterday's announcement looked like "non-executive directors wresting control from Andrew Buxton". He doubted that Mr Buxton would stay with Barclays in the long term.

B&Q escalates DIY price war

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

B&Q, Britain's biggest DIY chain, is this week intensifying the price war that has threatened to put some of its smaller rivals out of business with a further round of steep permanent price cuts by Easter.

The company, part of the Kingfisher retail group that includes Woolworth, Superdrug and Comet, is cutting prices by 10 to 15 per cent on 300 key items and extending the 15 per cent markdown on paint. Prices will then be cut on a further 200 core items.

In the year to end-January, Kingfisher's pre-tax profits fell from £227.7 million to £210.9 million, reflecting low consumer spending. However, the figure was also after a £23.5 million exceptional item, a writedown in the value of the group's property portfolio offset by property disposals.

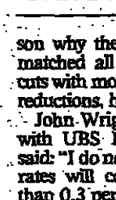
At the pre-exceptional level, profits were £234.4 million (£221.8 million), in line with the £233 million forecast made when Kingfisher bought Darty, the French electrical retailer. Gross profit margins fell in all four divisions. A final dividend of 9.5p makes a total of 13.7p (13p).

Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, the chairman, said there were tentative signs that shoppers were slowly but warily emerging from hibernation. "We may well be witnessing a slow, albeit tortuous, recovery in retail spending."

The price war has already cost the big DIY retailers heavily. B&Q is the biggest, with 15 per cent of the market.

John Richards, retail analyst at NatWest Securities, the broker, said: "It's a price war in which Kingfisher feels it is in the driving seat. It's going to ensure that the weaker players, notably poor old Do It All, will eventually be consigned to the dustbin."

Unease over Clinton's economic dream



IRWIN STELZER

Underneath the political acclaim and the bond market euphoria over the Clinton economic plan runs a current of unease. Chief executives and Wall Street financial types are starting to voice their concerns about the long-term consequences of the plan.

As yet, they have not gone public, leaving that to a small band of Republican congressmen. But boardroom talk reflects decided nervousness. The core of Clinton's programme is the largest tax increase in American history. Edward Hyman, of International Strategy & Investment, estimates that the increased taxes will reduce growth in GNP by 1 percentage point in 1994, 1995 and 1996. David Resler, of Nomura Securities, puts the cost of the tax increase at 400,000 jobs by the end of 1994. And that is just the beginning.

Washington healthcare experts are guessing that Hillary Rodham Clinton's "reforms" will result in about $90 billion of new taxes annually. As Americans begin to tot up the reduction in disposable income that will result from the income and energy tax increases already proposed, and others soon to come, their confidence is sagging, and their willingness to spend decreasing, according to a University of Michigan survey, released a few days ago. The business community, too, is rattled. The president's assault on the pharmaceutical industry, threatening it with price controls, has had an effect not only on the drug manufacturers but also on other industries that feel vulnerable to retaliation if they do not toe the government line. Most businesses also worry that the government, short of funds, will finance the stream of job training, environmental and regulatory programmes being churned out by Clinton policymakers by ordering the business community to provide them. The Clinton theory is that the price increases that will follow such cost increases will be less visible to voters than direct taxes and will, in any event, be blamed on the business community, not the government.

Businessmen know that the price increases will attract foreign competition, so they cry out for protection — and are heard. A trade showdown with Europe and Japan was narrowly averted last week when President Clinton suspended sanctions in the brawl over public procurement contracts, and Japan met America's target by buying 20 per cent of its computer chips from US companies. But that truce should not be mistaken for a permanent peace. George Mason University economist James Buchanan, a Nobel laureate, says: "Mr Clinton's programme is free-trade rhetoric and protectionist reality." That explains how the president can give a rousing speech in support of free trade and then refuse to sign the North American Free Trade Agreement unless Mexico agrees to prevent "import surges", and to impose on its businesses some of the costly environmental regulations now borne by American firms. It gives warning of trade battles to come.

So, the long-term fear is that taxes will leave consumers with less to spend; that rising costs imposed by government programmes and regulations will force Mr Clinton to protect American businesses and that the cost increases will be reflected in price increases, triggering a round of inflation and rising interest rates.

Even more unnerving, especially to the financial community, is what seems to be a steady erosion of the independence of the Federal Reserve Board. The decision by Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, to display support for the president by sitting between Mrs Clinton and Mrs Al Gore during the State of the Union message is now generally regarded as a serious error. The usually astute Mr Greenspan was trying to head off legislation that might permanently destroy the Fed's independence from high-spending, inflation-prone Congresses. But his need to do so convinces Wall Street that erosion of the Fed's independence has begun already. It now seems that a Democratic president with a strong congressional majority can coerce the Fed into adopting more inflationary policies than it has in the past. So, analysts expect a battle between the economic forces pointing to a smooth recovery and the political forces that may well abort it. While few want to predict the outcome, the pessimists are gathering adherents, at least as regards the post-1993 outlook.

THE SWISS KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT MONEY

The Swiss have an enviable reputation when it comes to safely looking after their own and other investors money, and investors around the world recognise the benefit of owning investments denominated in Swiss Francs. Between May and December 1992, the Swiss Franc appreciated by 24% against Sterling, 9% against the US$, and 4% against the D-mark.

Falling interest rates provide excellent opportunities for investment in bonds, and many investors select bonds denominated in Swiss Francs, a hard currency which has historically enjoyed a low exposure to political and economic risk. Now anyone can invest in first class Swiss Franc denominated bonds - by purchasing units in the Swiss investment scheme of B.I.A. Bond Investments AG, Switzerland.

"B.I.A." is a well known Swiss investment company, and its scheme is also recognised by the UK Securities and Investment Board, listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and authorised in Hong Kong. B.I.A.'s Swiss Franc bond scheme is similar to a unit trust, and investors benefit from any increase in B.I.A.'s Swiss Franc denominated unit prices and from any currency gain that may arise.

B.I.A.'s investment advisers are Pictet & Cie, Geneva, one of Switzerland's largest and oldest private banks. The portfolio of first class Swiss Franc bonds and deposits is conservatively managed to maximise capital growth, and the income is reinvested. The Swiss Franc denominated price of B.I.A.'s anonymous "bearer" certificates is quoted daily in the Financial Times. Each unit now costs about SFr.900 - approximately £430.

Please note that the price of units can go down as well as up, and investors may not get back the amount they invested. The Sterling value of units will increase or decrease depending on exchange rate movements.

Details are available to investors and advisers from B.I.A or its UK representatives who approved this advertisement:-
David Burren, Marketing Director, International Investment Consultants Ltd.,
30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1SB.
Telephone: 071 638 2540 or 071 588 1932. Fax: 071 628 2472.
FIMBRA

Mr/Mrs/Miss ____
Address ____
Postcode ____ Telephone ____

B.I.A. Bond Investments AG, Switzerland
8 Baarerstrasse, 6301 Zug, Switzerland

Lasmo writes down reserves

Blow softened by tax provisions

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

LASMO, the oil exploration and production group, has written down the value of its reserves by £232 million to account for lower oil price forecasts and a reduction in estimates of the amount of oil that can be extracted from certain oil fields.

The blow to Lasmo's finances has been softened by the release of £108 million of petroleum revenue tax provisions arising from last week's Budget. The company has put up for sale its interest in the Markham gas field, once regarded as a core asset. It could fetch about £60 million and help reduce debts that stand at 88 per cent of shareholders' funds of about £1 billion.

Counting a net loss of £270 million on disposals during the year, Lasmo lost £385 million in 1992, the first year of ownership of Ultramar, bought for £1.18 billion in 1991. Counting the £25 million cost of the dividend, down from 8.5p to 3.3p for the year, Lasmo has withdrawn £416 million from reserves. The shares fell 19p to 173p.

On dividends, Lasmo said: "The board's assumption is that there is unlikely to be any real increase in the dollar price of oil in the medium term. In the light of this factor, the current profitability and cash flow of the group and future capital commitments, the board does not believe it to be financially prudent to maintain the 1992 dividend."

Lasmo said the 3.3p a share payout was "a level the directors believe is sustainable and which will provide room for growth in the future". Analysts did not think Lasmo would be able to cover a maintained dividend this year. Lasmo spent £385 million on development last year, including £58 million of interest added to the balance sheet, the highest in its history. The group expects development spending to fall by £150 million this year.

With regard to the Budget, Joe Darby, the chief executive, who replaced Chris Greentree in January, said: "We continue to believe it is important for Lasmo to be active internationally. We will be redirecting our overseas exploration efforts into onshore areas where finding and development costs are lower than equivalent offshore environments."

Moody's Investor Services said it had confirmed the BAA1 rating for Lasmo's senior long-term debt after the writedown in the company's oil reserves. Moody's said the writedown would not affect Lasmo's future cash flow. The rating involved about $420 million, Moody's said.

Lasmo hinted at a possible cash raising in America yesterday. It said it was seeking a listing in the form of American Depository Receipts to boost American share dealings.

Tempus, page 27

SIMON WALKER



Window to onshore opportunities: Joe Darby, new head of Lasmo, is watching costs

Cornhill runs back into black

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

CORNHILL, the British composite insurance arm of Allianz, Europe's biggest insurance group, returned to the black last year with a pre-tax profit of £3.1 million and a 15 per cent increase in general interest premiums.

The result represents a sharp turnround from the £39.5 million pre-tax loss incurred in 1991. General interest premiums rose to £619 million. Adjusted for the disposals and acquisitions, premiums in 1991 totalled £537.3 million.

Cornhill, which sponsors the cricket test series, said life business premiums were slightly lower last year at £86.9 million, but motor business in Britain and personal lines produced a volume growth in premiums and an insurance profit. Profits were good in America, France and Ireland.

Among unprofitable divisions were commercial business and Allianz Cornhill International, the industrial risks division.

While the life division continued to make progress, its profit dropped from £3.9 million to £2.9 million.

Jobless forecast to peak at 3.25m

BY PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

UNEMPLOYMENT in Britain will peak at just over 3.25 million next year, according to National Westminster Bank. The NatWest estimate implies a continuing rise in the number out of work, after last week's surprise 22,000 drop, but is much lower than some forecasts for 1994.

David Kern, the bank's chief economist, says that because Britain went into recession earlier than other European countries, and is likely to recover earlier, unemployment will peak in the spring of next year at 3.275 million, or 11.7 per cent of the workforce. The current level is 2.97 million — 10.5 per cent.

Across Europe, NatWest forecasts that unemployment will reach about 18.5 million, or almost 11 per cent of the workforce, in autumn next year. That compares with an EC level in January of almost 17 million — up from 15.6 million at the start of 1992.

NatWest says central banks' efforts to stabilise currency markets will achieve only partial success. Cuts in German interest rates will enable the franc to maintain its parity, but Mr Kern predicts that the Spanish peseta and the Portuguese escudo will be devalued again.

☐ The Trades Union Congress has backed the European TUC's day of action over jobs on April 2 — the day when railwaymen and coal miners have been called on to hold 24-hour strikes in Britain. The TUC said it was not asking other workers in Britain to strike on that day.

BSG cash call to fund capital expenditure

BSG, the automotive, vehicle distribution and aircraft products group, is raising £31 million in a rights issue to pay for capital spending. Pre-tax profit rose from £11.1 million to £12 million last year, on sales down from £569 million to £555 million. Shareholders are being offered 51.9 million new shares on a one-for-four basis at 62p, a discount of 19 per cent to the share price before the announcement. The dividend for the year is maintained at 3.2p.

Group borrowings at the end of December were £49 million. The automotive components division contributed almost static trading profits of £7.1 million. BSG's car dealerships recovered from a downturn in 1991, with trading profit up from £2.5 million to £4 million.

Publisher plans growth

DORLING Kindersley, the publisher, which has net cash of £15.9 million, plans to expand. First listed on the stock exchange in October, the company made a pre-tax profit of £4.22 million (£3.49 million) for the six months to December 31, on turnover of £38.6 million (£32.1 million). The maiden interim dividend is 1.1p. Dorling Kindersley, in which Microsoft has a 19.6 per cent stake, is developing "multimedia" educational products combining printed matter, sound and video. The shares fell 41p to 264p.

Geest slips to £20.4m

GEEST, the fresh produce group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £26.2 million to £20.4 million in 1992, due to a huge drop in food prices across Europe and high spending on developing the banana business and expanding in chilled foods. A new plant has been built in Costa Rica and bananas from there will come on to the European market under a regime planned to begin on July 1. The Germans are challenging the agreement in the European Courts. The dividend rises to 8.1p (7.9p) for the year. Tempus, page 27

Lex goes into service

LEX Service, Britain's biggest car retailer, has expanded into the servicing business with the £13 million purchase of Lucas Autocentres. Lex has been restructuring since it lost the Volvo distributorship a year ago. Earnings on the £74 million compensation for the loss of the franchise helped it towards a £28.3 million pre-tax profit in 1992. The previous year, the figures for which are not directly comparable, saw a £500,000 loss. Lex is paying a 6.6p final dividend, raising the total from 10.0p to 10.6p. The shares rose 10p to 329p.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	110.70	118.30	-0.50	1.43
International	82.21	87.45	-0.19	1.17
Dividend Gth	56.41	60.01	-0.30	5.00
Global Gth Sec	60.43	64.28	-0.18	2.85
Ethical Growth	64.14	68.23	-0.44	2.78
High Inc Equity	150.30	159.80	-1.10	5.32
Worldwide Bond	260.90	276.60	-1.70	4.52
Gilts Fixed Int	128.90	136.60	-0.30	6.95
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580. 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	43.78	46.25	-0.23	1.83
European	78.80	83.53	-0.10	...
European Inc	76.16	80.88	-0.19	1.65
Exempt	882.40	911.00	-1.20	3.37
Extra Inc	41.95	45.59	-0.09	5.51
F East Emerg Ec	80.34	86.54	-0.32	0.74
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	370.80	396.30	-0.50	4.24
Equity Inc	208.90	223.20	-0.40	4.08
High Yield	233.60	249.70	-0.30	4.16
Balanced	634.50	678.20	-2.30	2.76
American Inc	48.75	52.11	+0.04	3.28
Wld Asset Val	38.20	40.83	-0.03	2.01
Japan	154.10	164.20	-2.80	0.01
Secs of Am	425.90	453.30	+0.90	0.44
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	308.60	328.40	-0.30	2.95
-do- Inc	221.30	235.50	-0.10	2.95
Higher Inc Acc	559.70	595.50	-1.00	4.05
-do- Inc	345.20	367.30	-0.70	4.05
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	174.70	184.50	-0.60	6.67
-do- Inc	91.57	96.71	-0.32	6.67
Nth America	258.10	274.60	-0.60	...
Far East	259.40	276.00	-1.60	0.34
Europe	214.40	228.10	-0.60	1.30
General Inc	415.30	441.90	-0.50	2.63
-do- Acc	456.00	485.20	-0.50	2.63
Brit Excell	62.58	68.58	-0.13	2.98
Brit Fndmtls Inc	64.94	69.09	-0.17	5.28
Brit Fndmtls Acc	83.71	89.06	-0.21	5.28
Global Opps	69.03	73.44	-0.16	...
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	104.50	111.90	-0.60	3.14
Euro Gth Inc	110.60	117.30	-0.30	1.19
Extra Inc	104.70	112.00	-0.70	5.28
General	234.20	250.50	-2.20	3.46
Gilt Fxd Inc	56.00	59.98	-0.12	8.66
Income	472.50	505.30	-2.80	4.93
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	91.34	97.05	-0.35	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	116.80	125.90	-0.30	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	52.30	55.93	+0.08	7.40
Eastern	170.20	183.40	-0.80	1.70
Equity Income	79.03	85.03	+0.75	6.40
European Gth	225.00	239.40	-0.20	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	150.90	160.90	-0.70	2.00
Exempt	80.96	83.16	-1.03	3.80
German Growth	55.09	58.77	+0.36	0.80
Global Growth	106.00	113.10	-0.40	...
Japan Growth	167.30	179.30	-2.30	...
Japan Sunrise	142.00	151.60	-1.10	...
Portfolio	115.10	123.20	-0.20	3.40
-do- Acc	205.40	219.80	-0.30	3.40
UK Growth	77.24	82.17	-0.51	3.10
UK Smaller Cos	79.04	84.53	-0.24	2.00
Select Managers	62.36	66.93	-0.11	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	102.89	110.04	-0.19	2.39
-do- Inc	94.34	100.79	-0.17	2.39
Global Bond	29.29	31.07	-0.12	5.30
High Yield Acc	51.94	55.55	-0.02	4.12
-do- Inc	38.07	40.72	-0.02	4.12
Smlr Cos Acc	85.80	91.76	-0.03	1.81
-do- Inc	79.34	84.86	-0.03	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	58.74	62.83	-0.26	...
-do- Inc	57.65	61.66	-0.25	...
Euro Gth Acc	93.79	100.31	+0.29	1.27
-do- Inc	92.50	98.93	+0.29	1.27
Mngd P folio	34.10	36.47	-0.05	1.37
Pacific Growth	89.08	95.28	-0.40	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	85.40	91.34	-0.12	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	118.10	125.80	-1.00	3.53
Smaller Cos Acc	276.80	296.10	-0.90	...
Smaller Cos Inc	162.10	173.40	-0.50	1.33
High Inc	70.49	75.77	-0.50	7.28
Income	126.70	135.50	-1.00	4.28
Mngd P folio Inc	91.11	97.03	-0.19	2.14
-do- Acc	172.20	183.40	-0.40	...
North American	104.10	110.90	-0.90	0.20
Orient	105.40	113.90	-0.20	...
Recovery	37.16	39.96	-0.12	2.96
German	42.40	45.45	-0.13	0.09
Intl Growth	32.28	34.38	+0.03	0.23
European Inc	22.44	24.14	-0.05	0.47
Conv General				
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	62.17	66.14	-0.42	1.26
-do- Acc	70.09	74.56	-0.48	1.26
Income Fund 5	211.70	225.30	+1.00	4.03
-do- Acc	481.30	512.10	+2.20	4.03
Inv Portfolio	64.44	68.85	-0.14	2.01
-do- Acc	75.01	77.74	-0.17	2.01
Smaller Cos	120.60	126.30	-0.20	2.01
-do- Acc	144.80	154.10	-0.30	2.01
High Inc P folio	59.28	61.43	-0.10	4.65
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 488 7216				
Sht Gilt Fxd Int	66.03	66.92	-0.04	6.01
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	133.80	142.40	..	1.73
UK Growth	143.90	153.10	-0.60	2.34
UK Income	123.70	131.60	-0.80	4.50
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	79.01	84.53	-0.30	1.10
Growth	44.25	47.33	-0.17	3.02
Income	53.23	56.93	+0.01	4.27
Far East	43.11	46.11	-0.34	0.17
North American	79.78	85.79	-0.59	0.01
Global	79.75	85.29	-0.59	0.20
European	67.71	72.36	-0.42	1.30
Japan	94.71	101.30	-1.40	0.01
[illegible]	[illegible]	63.22	-0.22	5.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	83.12	-0.26	2.04
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	131.40	139.70	-1.00	0.30
-do- Acc	139.80	148.80	-1.00	0.30
European	65.13	68.94	+0.02	1.09
-do- Acc	67.51	71.45	+0.01	1.09
Far East Gen	53.71	57.14	-0.73	...
-do- Acc	53.71	57.14	-0.73	...
Glenfriars	249.70	265.70	-1.40	1.00
-do- Acc	281.20	299.20	-1.50	1.00
Growth	372.90	398.90	+0.70	2.57
-do- Acc	638.40	682.80	-1.10	2.57
Income Growth	371.00	394.70	-0.20	4.00
-do- Acc	493.30	524.80	-0.20	4.00
Master Portfolio	9293.0	9611.0	-36.00	2.70
-do- Acc	10704.0	11070.0	-41.00	2.70
Special Sits	85.62	91.01	...	2.52
-do- Acc	100.21	106.61	+0.11	2.52
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1196.0	1234.0	-1.00	4.48
-do- Acc	1386.0	1429.0	...	4.48
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	195.10	207.70	-0.10	1.47
Capital	524.90	560.10	+0.10	2.38
Eurotrack 100	127.10	135.10	+0.20	1.53
Euro Gth	78.46	83.50	-0.10	1.39
Far East Growth	81.81	87.31	-0.31	0.15
Global Bond	23.50	24.77	...	5.77
Hong Kong	71.37	76.16	+2.00	0.59
Income	506.70	539.60	-0.30	4.46
Intl Growth	71.51	76.31	-0.24	1.00
Japan Growth	223.20	238.20	-3.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	27.51	29.35	-0.39	...
Japan Index	66.50	70.97	-1.02	0.36
Nth American	426.80	455.40	-0.40	0.95
S pore Mly Gth	48.26	51.50	-1.13	...
The Footsie Fd	106.50	112.40	-0.20	2.62
Tiger Index	132.70	141.60	+0.40	0.71
Trade Index	101.80	108.60	-0.40	2.64
UK Index	121.60	129.70	-0.10	3.00
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	83.88	89.69	+0.17	1.00
European P folio	71.41	75.87	+0.11	1.38
Japanese P folio	54.31	57.70	-0.34	...
Pacific P folio	91.90	98.82	+0.26	2.43
Cazenove P folio	69.07	73.88	-0.39	3.00
UK Income Gth	62.44	66.91	-0.41	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	604.15	609.40	...	4.74
Fixed Int	155.70	156.45	...	9.27
Deposit	6.00	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	596.47	600.35	...	4.98
-do- Acc	2297.6	2316.6	...	...
Deposit	6.00	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.15	127.21	...	9.12
-do- Acc	166.55	166.88	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	63.47	66.81	..	2.42
Beckman Intl	82.13	86.67	-0.55	3.22
Friars Hse Inc	178.27	191.80	..	6.45
Friars Hse Cap	248.88	267.62	...	2.90
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	107.34	114.19	-0.36	0.04
European Gth	93.24	99.19	+0.06	1.13
Far East Gth	95.86	101.98	-0.27	0.53
Japan Gth Acc	35.35	37.61	-0.31	...
Managed	60.85	64.73	-0.03	3.02
-do- Acc	73.49	78.18	-0.03	3.02
Mthly Inc Plus	46.92	49.92	-0.21	8.69
Smaller Cos	32.88	34.98	-0.10	2.29
-do- Acc	37.04	39.40	-0.12	2.29
UK General	67.56	71.87	-0.12	2.78
-do- Acc	80.99	86.16	-0.14	2.78
Wwide Bd	63.33	67.30	-0.46	6.34
-do- Acc	81.46	86.58	-0.58	6.34
Wwide Sp Sits	53.71	57.44	-0.03	0.22
-do- Acc	55.96	59.85	-0.03	0.22
Quilter General	118.58	126.15	+0.02	2.78
-do- Acc	131.76	140.17	-0.03	2.78
Quilter Income	92.08	97.96	-0.15	4.57
-do- Acc	113.49	120.73	-0.18	4.57
Quilter Intl	124.85	132.82	-0.68	0.66
-do- Acc	126.58	134.66	-0.69	0.66
Quilter UK Spec	68.97	72.97	-0.20	2.49
-do- Acc	90.75	96.54	-0.26	2.49
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	102.23	108.76	-0.17	1.42
Fixed Conv	40.83	43.44	-0.12	8.17
-do- Acc	106.70	113.51	-0.29	8.17
Equity Inc	144.95	154.20	-0.03	4.01
-do- Acc	465.31	495.01	-0.07	4.01
High Yield	116.54	123.98	+0.02	5.39
-do- Acc	440.65	468.78	+0.07	5.39
Preference	47.51	50.54	-0.13	7.85
-do- Acc	240.63	255.99	-0.69	7.85
PPT Europe	147.03	156.41	-0.05	0.48
PPT Global Bnd	83.25	88.45	-0.19	4.66
PPT Gold Cont	50.41	53.63	-0.53	...
PPT Thai	54.25	57.71	-0.06	0.24
PPT Hong Kong	95.05	101.12	+0.77	1.17
PPT Japan	98.44	104.72	-1.01	...
PPT N Amer	149.87	159.44	-0.40	...
PPT S'pore Mly	97.76	104.00	-0.16	...
PPT UK	113.98	121.26	-0.19	1.49
PPT Cash	91.36	91.36	+0.01	5.64
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	74.50	79.25	+0.32	1.00
Japanese Acc	51.79	55.10	-0.44	...
UK Balncd Inc	125.00	133.00	-0.70	2.52
-do- Acc	146.00	155.30	-0.70	2.52
UK Growth Acc	205.90	219.00	-0.60	2.30
UK High Inc	134.70	143.30	-0.60	6.03
-do- Acc	159.00	169.20	-0.70	6.03
N America Acc	112.40	119.60	-0.30	0.32
European Acc	150.00	159.60	-0.20	0.44
UK Pref F/I Inc	60.24	63.91	-0.13	8.84
-do- Acc	97.23	103.20	-0.30	8.84
Intl Sp Sits Acc	45.97	48.90	-0.21	0.23
Environmntl Opp	71.01	75.54	-0.07	1.47
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	113.30	120.40	-0.20	...
UK Smllr Cos	185.10	196.70	+0.60	1.27
[illegible]	37.31	39.48	+0.01	1.01
Mngd Exempt	168.00	172.00	-2.30	3.05
Growth Inc	209.70	222.80	+1.10	4.04
High Dist	138.00	146.60	-1.00	5.90
International	312.30	331.70	-0.50	0.98
Intl Income	80.05	85.45	+0.06	3.09
Pacific	55.22	58.67	+0.12	0.51
Smllr Jap Cos	57.27	60.85	-0.66	...
Tokyo	172.40	183.20	-2.00	...
Japan Exempt	97.64	100.30	-1.00	0.50
Sm Jap Exempt	488.50	501.90	+14.40	0.10
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	170.10	180.90	...	1.14
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	105.05	110.58	-0.18	3.50
High Income	120.78	127.14	-0.06	5.02
Tst of Inv Tsts	139.90	147.26	+0.08	2.17
Special Sits	84.30	88.74	-0.39	3.03
North American	105.35	110.89	-0.29	1.06
Far Eastern	216.83	228.24	-0.32	1.60
Intl Growth	89.15	93.84	-0.33	1.57
European	62.66	65.96	+0.18	2.27
Smaller Cos	70.72	74.44	-0.09	2.34
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414161				
America	218.60	232.00	-1.40	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	5.90
European Tst	111.30	118.40	-0.20	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	92.08	97.48	-0.02	0.88
Far Eastern	121.60	129.70	-1.00	...
Ocean Income	89.62	96.15	+0.04	2.74
UK Growth	90.95	97.27	+0.07	1.34
UK Income	101.40	108.50	-0.90	3.83
US Smaller Cos	236.00	252.40	-1.00	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	414.80	443.50	-3.10	...
-do- Acc	423.70	453.10	-3.20	...
Capital	281.10	299.00	-1.20	2.13
-do- Acc	391.50	416.40	-1.70	2.13
Conti Smllr Cos	46.49	50.01	+0.12	1.11
-do- Acc	48.10	51.74	+0.12	1.11
Convertible	110.40	117.40	-0.10	6.47
-do- Acc	204.40	217.40	-0.20	6.47
European	96.12	102.60	-0.10	1.15
-do- Acc	99.32	106.10	...	1.15
Extra Income	287.70	306.00	-0.50	4.37
-do- Acc	402.90	428.50	-0.80	4.37
Financial	105.50	113.30	-0.40	0.82
-do- Acc	109.80	117.90	-0.50	0.82
Health Fund Inc	106.40	113.60	-0.60	...
-do- Acc	106.40	113.60	-0.60	...
Income Tst	176.70	187.90	...	4.05
-do- Acc	246.30	261.90	+0.10	4.05
Intl Growth	297.80	317.90	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	330.70	353.00	-0.60	...
Japan Gen	146.90	157.10	-1.30	...
-do- Acc	148.40	158.70	-1.30	...
Mngd P folio Inc	89.70	94.42	-0.23	1.06
-do- Acc	92.62	97.49	-0.25	1.06
Monthly Income	146.10	155.40	-0.10	4.53
Recovery	286.30	306.10	-1.10	0.87
-do- Acc	335.30	358.50	-1.30	0.87
Gilt Gth Tst	61.73	63.66	-0.48	6.95
-do- Acc	77.50	79.92	-0.60	6.95
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	347.49	369.67	...	3.01
-do- Acc	701.62	746.40	...	3.01
Euro Gth Dist	103.10	109.68	...	1.00
-do- Acc	106.17	112.95	...	1.00
Fixed Int Dist	130.34	137.87	...	6.41
-do- Acc	218.94	231.56	...	6.41
Intl Gth Dist	73.49	78.18	...	0.85
-do- Acc	76.02	80.87	...	0.85
Nth Amer Dist	169.32	179.38	...	0.77
-do- Acc	183.62	194.53	...	0.77
Pac Basin Dist	222.32	236.51	...	0.33
-do- Acc	225.83	240.24	...	0.33
Stewardship Dist	297.84	316.85	...	1.98
-do- Acc	352.38	374.87	...	1.98
Stwd Inc Dist	61.77	65.71	...	3.85
-do- Acc	75.69	80.52	...	3.85
N Am Stwd Dist	99.79	106.16	...	...
-do- Acc	105.56	112.30	...	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	136.30	145.80	-0.70	...
European	389.20	412.90	+0.70	1.02
Far East General	195.70	209.40	-0.60	0.34
Germany	98.31	104.00	+0.30	0.44
Global Assets In	65.57	70.08	-0.01	2.31
Global Assets Ac	68.70	73.42	...	2.28
Income Inc	109.20	116.80	-0.30	7.53
International	248.90	266.00	-0.20	1.05
Intl Income	76.55	81.18	-0.07	4.91
Japan General	322.30	342.10	-2.90	...
Smllr Cos Div	45.47	48.64	+0.13	6.24
UK Capital Inc	154.20	165.00	-0.10	4.04
-do- Acc	263.80	282.20	-0.30	3.98
UK Spec Sits	70.14	75.02	-0.21	1.70
US General	111.10	116.30	-0.70	0.11
W wide Spec Sits	110.80	118.50	..	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	42.60	45.50	+0.01	1.27
Cash Trust	127.83	127.83	+0.02	5.14
Fstr Inv Inc	100.34	102.60	+0.02	4.14
-do- Acc	215.40	230.90	+0.04	4.14
UK Smaller Cos	95.49	102.40	-1.96	1.58
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.11	26.86	...	8.23
High Inc	30.92	33.07	+0.24	5.35
UK Equity Inc	126.54	135.34	+0.38	4.05
Global Bond	29.62	30.69	-0.06	5.60
International Funds				
Gold Intl	68.31	73.25	-0.51	1.60
Frontier Markets	39.46	42.32	-0.34	0.24
Global Inc Gth	119.22	127.20	-0.48	2.44
UK Intl	106.85	114.28	-0.27	0.68
Overseas Funds				
American	129.85	138.35	-0.58	0.58
European	79.79	84.58	-0.14	0.80
Euro Sel Opps	92.00	98.03	+0.03	1.31
American Emerg	76.87	82.43	+0.59	...
Hong Kong	102.18	109.58	-1.81	2.15
Japan	180.45	192.05	-1.38	...
Pacific Growth	138.25	149.26	+0.27	0.50
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 9926				
Intl Growth	118.97	127.24	-0.08	0.37
American Gth	116.91	125.06	-1.91	...
European Gth	67.18	71.85	+0.19	0.42
German Horizn	47.14	50.26	-0.13	...
Japan Gth	66.47	71.09	-0.51	...
Pacific Inc	124.70	133.37	+0.36	2.85
Pacific Strategy	104.22	111.47	+0.26	0.25
UK Prog Inc	74.07	78.09	+0.29	4.61
Gt British Cos	47.59	50.18	-0.37	2.70
UK Small Cos	43.63	46.66	+0.13	2.12
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	130.40	130.40	...	4.95
Gilt Fixed	118.90	126.20	+0.40	0.52
Growth Equity	280.70	299.80	-0.90	3.11
Guardhill	417.70	446.20	-2.10	2.36
Income Trust	106.00	113.20	-0.90	3.46
International	150.50	160.70	-0.20	0.36
Japan Trust	107.20	114.50	-1.10	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	257.30	274.80	+0.10	0.45
Pacific	339.30	362.50	-1.10	...
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	334.10	356.90	+0.80	0.57
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.28	36.34	...	1.75
-do- Acc	35.88	38.04	...	1.75
Inc Adv Inc	29.16	30.92	-0.10	4.13
-do- Acc	30.32	32.14	-0.10	4.13
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	70.79	75.83	+0.25	0.96
Equity Income	110.80	117.90	-0.70	3.60
European	128.00	135.60	-0.90	0.89
Intl Situation	72.31	76.93	+0.45	...
Japanese	120.90	128.60	-0.70	...
North American	101.10	107.30	-0.30	0.06
Scandinavian	101.30	107.10	-0.50	0.48
Smaller Cos	29.41	31.29	-0.23	2.24
HENDERSON PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	87.63	93.72	-1.08	...
Asian Enterprise	115.54	125.97	+0.33	0.76
Australian	132.71	141.86	-0.20	1.46
European	357.57	378.29	-1.51	1.21
European Inc	68.21	72.11	-0.07	3.25
Euro Smi Co	122.24	130.15	-0.68	0.76
Extra Income	255.94	272.47	-0.15	5.52
Family of Funds	67.77	72.43	-0.08	1.47
Fixed Interest	55.12	58.94	-0.20	9.74
Global Resour	86.24	92.57	-0.88	1.22
High Inc	279.68	298.97	+0.33	4.78
Income Gth	234.42	249.65	-0.60	3.93
-do- Acc	589.91	628.25	-1.52	3.93
International	218.92	233.04	-1.13	1.02
Japan Spc Sit	196.36	208.87	-2.65	0.07
Japan	170.70	181.44	-1.78	...
N Amer	224.07	238.31	-2.05	0.21
Pacific Smllr Cos	161.21	174.82	+0.15	0.53
Pref Gilt	46.46	50.49	+0.04	8.72
Smaller Cos Div	156.61	170.69	-0.07	4.30
Special Sits	251.28	268.86	+0.14	1.63
-do- Acc	386.12	413.14	+0.22	1.63
Best of British	55.02	58.93	-0.17	2.68
Spirit of the East	53.44	57.15	-0.22	0.90
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	86.57	92.58	+0.06	2.34
Capital	152.10	162.60	-0.30	1.99
Dollar	307.70	329.00	-1.20	0.17
European	188.10	201.10	-0.30	0.56
Far East	222.30	237.70	+0.50	0.64
Financial	642.20	686.80	-3.30	2.59
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.77	26.77	-0.08	8.01
High Yield	99.30	106.30	-0.10	4.91
Income	132.30	141.40	+0.10	3.51
Intl	205.40	219.60	-1.10	0.37
Japan Tech	57.79	61.80	-0.53	...
Nat Resources	55.96	59.85	-0.80	0.78
Security	288.40	308.90	-0.10	2.13
Smaller Cos	104.30	111.50	-0.10	1.63
Special Sits	133.30	142.40	-0.40	2.09
US Smaller Cos	62.14	66.45	-0.35	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	242.50	255.30	-1.70	1.41
Capital Gwth	100.90	106.20	..	2.49
Inv Trusts	124.70	131.30	...	0.72
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	23.05	25.29	+0.04	1.68
Special Features	26.41	28.06	-0.02	1.64
-do- Acc	31.23	33.18	-0.01	1.62
General Funds				
UK Growth	52.01	55.74	-0.15	2.34
Assets Earnings	69.33	73.63	-0.12	2.02
do Acc	81.44	86.53	-0.14	2.02
Managed Invest	81.94	87.57	-0.04	1.36
Expert Children	74.12	79.10	-0.14	1.77
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.26	50.26	...	4.70
Extra Inc	77.84	83.33	-0.22	5.54
Gilt	27.56	29.33	-0.10	7.02
Income Gth	38.25	40.90	-0.01	3.62
MIMstar	76.98	78.77	-0.23	8.54
Preference	17.71	19.41	-0.04	6.81
UK Income	298.50	319.40	-0.80	3.43
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fin'l Sec	54.99	58.42	-0.11	1.46
Property Shares	57.64	61.24	+0.02	2.26
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	139.50	146.70	-0.40	4.39
European Acc	107.90	114.40	+0.10	2.09
European Dist	102.80	108.90	+0.10	2.09
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	49.54	52.67	-0.01	1.06
European Perf	104.20	110.50	...	1.36
-do- Acc	106.10	112.60	...	1.36
Euro Small Cos	20.45	21.82	+0.05	0.81
French Growth	66.95	71.27	+0.26	0.59
-do- Acc	71.55	76.14	+0.28	0.59
Hong Kong	63.62	68.45	+0.61	1.37
Intl Growth	48.52	51.55	-0.13	0.85
-do- Acc	49.52	51.55	-0.13	0.85
Japan Perf	28.22	29.97	-0.26	...
Accum Units	28.22	29.97	-0.26	...
Japan Smllr Cos	30.17	32.04	-0.15	...
Singapore Asean	65.44	74.26	+0.02	0.60
-do- Acc	68.96	74.72	+0.02	0.60
South East Asia	303.30	319.60	+0.50	1.00
US Smllr Cos	109.30	116.10	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	110.40	117.30	-0.50	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	81.86	87.22	+0.06	2.78
Intl Bond	57.13	57.90	-0.06	6.73
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc	68.92	69.20	+0.01	5.40
Extra Income	51.01	54.27	-0.14	7.09
Gilt Yield	118.50	125.00	-0.30	8.01
Global Income	194.50	206.90	-0.80	4.13
High Yield	132.40	140.80	-0.30	6.23
Smllr Cos Div	45.63	46.54	...	4.92
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	90.08	95.83	+1.04	...
North American	76.90	81.81	+0.03	0.43
European	127.30	135.40	-0.40	0.93
Euro Special	75.79	80.63	-0.22	1.03
General	262.10	278.80	+0.10	3.41
Japan	339.60	361.30	-4.30	...
Japanese Special	182.20	193.80	-1.80	...
Master Acc	211.50	225.00	-2.50	1.47
Pacific	243.30	258.80	-0.10	0.51
Smaller Cos	97.67	103.90	+2.35	2.22
UK Equity Gth	34.45	36.60	-0.15	2.70
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	71.48	76.04	-0.11	0.51
Extra Income	23.45	24.95	-0.19	5.56
Far East	23.85	25.37	-0.08	0.99
Income Gwth	71.46	76.02	+0.18	3.14
Intl Growth	49.21	52.35	-0.15	0.91
Japan	53.90	57.34	-0.54	...
Maximum Dist	100.60	102.60	...	7.36
N Amer Equity	39.96	42.51	-0.06	0.48
UK Equity	85.07	90.50	-0.59	3.32
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	52.76	56.13	-0.02	4.74
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	415.90	442.40	-0.70	2.92
Equity Acc	760.40	808.90	-1.40	2.92
Equity Income	90.01	95.75	-0.13	5.16
European	93.26	99.21	+0.12	1.72
Far Eastern	163.10	173.50	-0.20	0.33
Fixed Interest	50.99	54.24	-0.16	7.40
Gilt	91.83	97.38	-0.32	7.00
Global Growth	62.47	66.46	-0.08	0.78
Intl Bond	56.72	60.34	-0.12	5.00
Japanese	59.01	62.78	-0.82	...
Overseas Equity	90.90	96.70	-0.13	0.82
Pacific Gth	77.88	82.85	+0.28	1.35
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	311.40	331.30	-2.90	3.06
-do- Acc	674.40	717.50	-6.10	3.06
Conti Euro Gth	49.81	52.44	-0.12	1.40
-do- Acc	52.67	55.45	-0.13	1.40
Extra Inc	237.30	252.50	+1.60	4.10
-do- Acc	577.10	614.00	+4.20	4.10
German Gth	101.00	106.40	-0.60	0.39
-do- Acc	105.93	111.50	-0.70	0.39
Growth Port	477.90	508.50	-1.70	2.59
-do- Acc	477.90	508.50	-1.70	2.59
Income	444.90	473.40	-3.50	3.81
-do- Acc	1128.0	1200.0	-9.00	3.81
Income Port	485.40	515.40	-1.90	5.19
-do- Acc	485.40	515.40	-1.90	5.19
Japan Growth	80.99	86.16	-0.71	0.01
-do- Acc	81.28	86.47	-0.69	0.01
Master Trust	50.86	54.11	-0.24	1.72
-do- Acc	55.31	58.85	-0.26	1.72
N American Gen	181.00	192.60	-2.00	0.01
-do- Acc	209.10	222.50	-2.20	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	132.60	141.10	-0.20	0.01
-do- Acc	135.30	144.00	-0.20	0.01
Pacific Basin	190.00	202.20	-1.90	0.68
-do- Acc	200.80	213.70	-2.00	0.68
Small Cos Rec	293.50	309.00	-0.50	2.48
-do- Acc	378.60	398.60	-0.60	2.48
UK Growth	77.55	82.50	-0.70	2.38
-do- Acc	90.42	96.20	-0.81	2.38
Worldwide Gth	265.40	282.40	-0.60	0.33
-do- Acc	391.00	416.00	-1.00	0.33
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	76.07	81.62	-0.64	3.00
Income	58.14	62.38	-0.36	6.10
International	54.05	57.99	-0.16	0.80
American	59.34	63.67	-0.09	0.30
Japan	43.27	46.43	-0.50	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	53.25	57.13	-0.02	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	388.10	409.70	-0.80	0.93
-do- Acc	478.80	505.50	-1.00	0.93
American Rec	410.60	434.20	-1.70	0.43
-do- Acc	469.70	496.70	-2.00	0.43
Am Sm Co Acc	115.40	122.40	-0.50	0.05
Australia Acc	140.50	148.80	-0.60	1.53
Capital	619.80	655.20	-0.50	3.13
-do- Acc	683.60	722.90	-0.60	3.13
Commodity Acc	389.40	411.80	-2.90	1.20
Compnd Gth	803.20	849.90	-4.00	3.13
Dividend	33.80	36.20	-0.20	4.73
-do- Acc	131.50	140.90	-0.90	4.73
Equity Inc	282.20	298.40	-1.10	5.41
European Div	56.60	60.30	+0.10	4.88
-do- Acc	64.00	68.20	-0.10	4.88
European Gen	371.30	392.70	+1.30	1.81
-do- Acc	463.80	490.00	+1.60	1.81
Extra Yield	352.20	376.90	-2.50	4.84
-do- Acc	1029.9	1102.1	-7.40	4.84
Far Eastern	251.90	277.00	+0.70	1.33
-do- Acc	344.50	394.30	+0.80	1.33
Fund of Inv	480.50	508.10	+0.50	2.50
-do- Acc	887.00	916.90	+0.90	2.50
General	52.30	55.30	-0.30	3.82
-do- Acc	137.90	145.70	-0.90	3.82
Gilt Fxd Int	62.00	62.00	...	8.27
do Acc	153.10	153.30	-0.10	8.27
Gold	39.60	41.90	-0.10	1.74
-do- Acc	46.30	49.00	-0.20	1.74
High Inc	24.20	25.60	-0.10	4.99
-do- Acc	89.50	94.70	-0.40	4.99
Intl Growth	65.20	69.10	-0.30	1.21
-do- Acc	112.40	119.20	-0.30	1.21
Intl Inc	89.60	94.80	-0.20	5.12
Japan Gen Acc	42.80	45.30	-0.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	121.80	128.90	-0.70	...
Midland	50.60	53.80	-0.10	4.34
-do- Acc	160.90	170.30	-0.30	4.34
Recovery	34.80	37.20	-0.20	3.39
-do- Acc	54.70	58.50	-0.30	3.39
Second Gen	58.90	62.30	-0.10	3.92
-do- Acc	144.00	152.40	-0.30	3.92
Smaller Cos	56.70	60.00	-0.10	3.80
-do- Acc	107.50	113.80	-0.10	3.80
Trustee	37.30	39.40	...	4.32
Charibond 3	1112.44	...	-0.10	9.59
Charifund 2	614.30	622.40	-3.40	5.30
Pension ex 1	848.70	870.00	-4.30	4.49
NAACIF Inc 3	145.75	...	...	7.23
-do- Acc 3	11080.0	...	+0.30	7.73
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 688066				
Inv Port Inc	131.80	140.90	-0.14	2.43
-do- Acc	146.30	156.50	-0.14	2.43
UK Income	109.50	117.10	-0.17	3.00
-do- Acc	122.10	130.60	-0.17	3.00
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	73.89	79.02	-0.16	0.64
Far East (Pacific)	124.50	132.10	-2.50	0.72
Income Growth	70.98	75.35	-0.19	3.97
European	64.55	68.53	-0.23	1.35
Nth American	57.15	60.66	-0.11	1.00
UK Growth	73.92	80.59	+0.09	1.36
Intl Growth	87.48	92.86	-0.16	0.70
Charities	107.20	113.70	+0.40	4.07
Intl Income	66.87	69.71	-0.02	3.97
Japan	43.10	45.84	-0.44	0.09
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	189.60	201.80	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	202.60	215.00	-0.60	...
Cash	100.90	100.90	...	5.81
-do- Acc	128.40	128.40	...	5.81
European Gth	186.90	198.30	-0.60	0.34
-do- Acc	200.83	213.30	-0.60	0.34
General	447.20	477.60	-3.40	2.72
-do- Acc	851.90	908.70	-6.40	2.72
Global Dist	131.30	138.20	-0.60	3.64
-do- Acc	147.30	154.70	-0.70	3.64
Income	134.80	143.80	-0.80	3.09
-do- Acc	196.30	209.40	-1.20	3.09
International	364.30	387.80	-1.10	0.96
-do- Acc	483.30	514.50	-1.30	0.96
Japan	153.40	162.70	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	157.50	167.00	-0.60	...
New Europe	129.90	138.60	-0.70	1.44
-do- Acc	132.00	140.90	-0.70	1.44
Recovery	286.20	306.30	-1.90	2.30
-do- Acc	357.60	381.90	-2.30	2.30
European Inc	72.89	77.34	+0.08	3.03
-do- Acc	92.47	98.12	+0.10	3.03
Brit Blue Chip	70.32	74.90	-0.71	3.68
-do- Acc	82.35	87.71	-0.82	3.68
Portfolio	71.70	76.25	-0.43	3.14
-do- Acc	81.53	86.70	-0.50	3.14
Gold General	70.76	75.48	+0.22	3.21
-do- Acc	71.73	76.51	+0.21	3.21
Pacific	83.52	89.09	-0.56	0.56
-do- Acc	88.28	94.17	+0.58	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	49.44	52.74	-0.08	1.09
-do- Acc	55.19	58.87	-0.08	1.09
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 526 280. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	56.81	60.76	...	3.30
-do- Acc	56.81	60.76	...	3.30
British Dist	75.16	80.38	...	2.42
-do- Acc	85.08	90.99	...	2.42
European Gth	162.80	173.90	...	0.16
-do- Acc	204.40	218.30	...	0.16
Extra High Inc	67.78	72.49	...	6.62
-do- Acc	117.80	126.00	...	6.62
FT-SE 100 Index	47.40	50.69	...	2.96
-do- Acc	47.40	50.69	...	2.96
Gilt Fixed Int	55.19	58.50	...	7.04
-do- Acc	147.80	153.90	...	7.04
High Yield	213.90	228.80	...	5.13
-do- Acc	491.00	525.10	...	5.13
Income	271.50	290.40	...	3.84
-do- Acc	564.50	603.70	...	3.84
Japan Gth	287.20	307.20	...	...
-do- Acc	303.10	324.20	...	...
Mandarin Acc	91.16	97.50	...	1.67
North American	164.70	176.10	...	0.51
-do- Acc	207.00	221.40	...	0.51
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	256.70	273.40	-1.00	0.45
Deposit Inc	100.08	100.08	+0.01	5.27
Deposit Acc	121.63	121.63	+0.01	5.27
Euro Gth Acc	252.60	269.40	...	...
Europa	116.30	124.60	+0.50	...
Intl Gth	159.90	170.60	-1.20	...
Japan Tracker	64.63	68.48	-0.74	...
UK Equity Inc	144.10	155.10	-0.80	5.06
-do- Acc	173.50	186.80	-0.90	5.06
UK Ind Tracker	138.90	148.60	-1.10	3.54
US Eq Ind Trkr	192.80	204.40	-0.20	1.29
-do- Acc	203.90	216.20	-0.20	1.29
Asian Trader	139.20	151.20	+0.90	1.04
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	171.60	175.40	+0.40	2.41
European	59.31	60.61	-0.14	1.21
Olympiad	51.51	52.85	-0.10	0.51
Global Bond	47.90	48.43	...	6.75
Smaller Cos	61.63	64.36	-0.24	1.59
Equity Income	90.81	93.34	-0.62	4.93
UK Growth	80.77	83.05	-0.82	2.04
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Billet Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	47.58	50.75	-0.08	0.84
Australian Acc	292	313.30	-0.30	...
Conscience	61.86	66.02	-0.05	1.53
-do- Acc	66.43	70.89	-0.05	1.53
European	165.60	176.60	+0.10	1.17
-do- Acc	176.60	188.30	...	1.17
Extra Income	71.24	76.02	+0.01	6.22
-do- Acc	107.40	114.60	...	6.22
Far East Gth	145	154.90	...	0.06
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.72	61.10	-0.20	7.55
Gold	30.53	32.82	-0.16	...
-do- Acc	32.88	35.35	-0.17	...
Income	50.93	54.32	-0.09	5.52
-do- Acc	152.70	162.80	-0.20	5.52
International	28.13	30.18	-0.05	1.19
-do- Acc	40.42	43.36	-0.09	1.19
Jap Sm Cos Acc	260.70	278	-2.60	...
S pore Mly Acc	152.50	163.50	-0.20	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.97	25.77	-0.06	1.98
Special Sits	31.43	33.79	-0.02	2.01
-do- Acc	35.87	38.56	-0.05	2.01
Tokyo	70.28	74.96	-0.99	...
-do- Acc	70.99	75.72	-1.00	...
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	66.02	70.24	-0.36	2.99
N&P Glt Fxd Int	72.74	76.98	-0.20	7.11
N&P Higher Inc	185.80	197.20	...	4.91
N&P UK Income	98.72	105.59	-0.05	4.11
N&P Intl	83.51	89.80	-0.19	2.00
N&P Smaller Cos	71.47	76.44	-0.17	1.77
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	156.47	166.46	-0.19	2.54
Global	265.54	282.49	-0.89	1.29
Growth	102.14	108.67	-0.02	2.50
Income	194.85	207.29	+0.02	4.60
Intl Bond	126.85	134.58	-0.57	8.30
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 506, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	137.20	146.40	...	2.78
-do- Acc	237.60	250.10	...	2.78
Income	215.40	229.10	...	3.82
Intl Equity	210.40	223.70	...	1.13
-do- Acc	230.30	244.90	...	1.13
Equity	213.90	227.10	...	2.67
-do- Acc	432.90	460.40	...	2.67
UK Intl 25 Acc	67.23	71.52	...	2.12
UK Income	58.83	62.58	...	3.36
UK Smllr Co Acc	69.32	73.74	...	1.72
New Europe Acc	59.92	63.74	...	1.60
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	82.55	88.29	+0.67	0.63
PEP Gth Inc	94.48	101.05	-0.31	1.40
Intl Gth	444.38	475.28	+0.13	0.83
Income	287.32	307.30	+0.35	3.59
W wide Recov	290.13	295.33	-1.12	0.77
American Gth	197.61	211.35	+0.55	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	167.51	179.16	-0.90	0.15
Far East Gth	181.81	194.45	-1.06	0.11
European Gth	107.28	114.74	-0.01	1.16
UK Growth	72.77	77.83	+0.53	3.14
High Income	79.09	84.59	+0.08	4.82
Japanese Gth	173.31	184.57	-2.53	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 282443				
International	164.20	174.70	-0.70	0.94
High Income	107.40	114.30	-0.20	3.87
Conv Gilt	108.70	115.60	-0.40	6.80
Far East	277.60	295.30	-0.70	0.35
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	48.56	51.66	-0.37	0.57
Emerging Mkts	58.17	61.88	-2.08	0.23
General	46.67	49.65	+0.05	3.45
International	80.65	85.80	-0.17	1.33
Gilt Units	26.37	27.19	-0.12	8.08
Global PEP	34.39	36.58	-0.05	2.13
Income Gth	62.46	66.45	+0.21	5.29
European	41.69	44.35	-0.03	1.20
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.38	27.00	-0.09	6.17
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst**	29.39	31.43	...	1.65
Pru Cnb Hvn Inc	101.31	101.31	+0.01	5.56
-do- Acc	104.37	104.37	+0.01	5.50
Pru Equity	648.79	693.89	+0.06	2.44
Pru Equity Inc	79.78	85.32	-0.07	4.20
Pru European	168.64	180.36	+0.25	1.87
Pru Global Gth	76.23	81.52	-0.07	1.58
Pru High Inc	84.65	90.53	-0.18	5.67
Pru Intl	151.37	161.89	-0.12	1.34
Pru Intl Sm Co	64.08	68.53	-0.11	0.94
Pru Japanese	159.74	170.84	-1.67	...
Pru Nth Amer	142.05	151.92	-0.47	0.46
Pru Pacific Mkt	69.28	74.09	+0.47	1.90
Pru Premr Inc	48.51	51.56	-0.15	7.42
Pru Smllr Cos	81.29	86.94	+0.13	1.99
Pru Spec Sits	96.32	103.01	-0.15	2.25
Pru UK Growth	107.38	114.84	+0.05	2.36
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981				
NC Income	153.87	163.61	-1.06	3.69
NC Japan	230.26	246.74	-1.19	...
NC Maj UK Cos	91.15	98.06	-0.79	2.57
NC America Inc	469.67	503.37	-1.23	0.57
-do- Acc	545.52	584.66	-1.43	0.57
NC Smlr UK Cos	251.33	274.02	-1.24	1.84
NC European	344.89	361.43	-0.42	1.55
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	72.96	77.61	-0.09	3.67
Capital Units	137.30	146.00	-0.50	1.44
Commodity	96.37	102.50	-0.90	1.16
European Gth	145.10	154.30	-0.20	1.42
Financial Sec	164.00	174.40	-0.40	1.93
High Return	207.60	220.80	-0.70	4.61
High Yield	201.10	213.90	-0.40	3.77
Income Units	108.10	111.80	-0.30	4.92
Investment	165.80	176.30	...	1.48
Japan Gth	122.00	129.70	-1.20	...
Japan Smaller	156.40	166.30	-2.10	...
Masterfund	43.60	46.38	-0.06	0.97
Scotbits	239.00	254.20	-0.50	1.66
Scotshares	248.90	264.70	+1.50	2.79
Scotyields	217.90	231.80	-0.30	4.02
Select Intl	124.20	132.10	-0.40	0.65
Smaller Cos	211.90	225.40	+0.40	4.26
Special Situation	106.30	113.00	-0.50	0.75
UK Equity	218.60	232.50	-0.20	2.89
US Growth	139.40	148.20	...	0.33
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	237.45	253.28	-1.69	0.71
-do- Acc	258.53	272.63	-1.82	0.71
Australian	131.09	139.82	-0.30	1.42
-do- Acc	154.11	164.37	-0.36	1.42
UK Enterprise	203.78	217.36	-2.52	2.77
-do- Acc	235.40	251.09	-2.92	2.77
European Gth	59.33	63.28	-0.02	1.37
-do- Acc	61.42	68.51	-0.02	1.37
Euro Smllr Cos	55.54	59.24	+0.06	0.69
-do- Acc	55.92	59.65	+0.06	0.69
Far Eastern Gth	63.48	67.71	+0.18	...
-do- Acc	64.51	68.81	+0.19	...
Fixed Interest	51.88	54.71	-0.23	8.50
-do- Acc	63.75	67.22	-0.28	8.50
Gilt Income	101.87	107.35	-0.49	8.35
-do- Acc	142.37	150.02	-0.68	8.35
Income	297.01	316.81	-1.62	4.53
-do- Acc	876.24	934.67	-4.78	4.53
Japan Enterprise	55.65	59.35	-0.78	...
-do- Acc	55.65	59.35	-0.78	...
Japan Smllr Cos	352.48	375.97	-2.54	...
-do- Acc	353.18	376.73	-2.53	...
Pacific Gth	81.45	86.88	+0.40	0.55
-do- Acc	83.87	89.45	+0.42	0.55
Smaller Cos	182.48	194.64	-0.94	1.29
-do- Acc	209.13	223.07	-1.08	1.29
Tokyo	87.56	93.39	-1.34	0.01
-do- Acc	88.44	94.33	-1.36	0.01
UK Equity	201.16	214.59	-0.52	3.09
-do- Acc	372.56	397.40	-0.96	3.09
US Smllr Cos	128.86	137.45	-0.09	...
-do- Acc	128.86	137.45	-0.09	...
World Fd	67.39	71.88	+0.02	1.74
-do- Acc	71.05	75.78	-0.05	1.74
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	43.14	45.94	-0.02	4.43
Equity Strategy	62.74	66.82	-0.35	1.80
European Opps	69.94	74.49	+0.11	3.22
Maximum Inc	98.11	104.49	-0.01	5.64
UK Smaller Cos	48.77	51.88	-0.30	3.21
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	335.10	358.10	-0.30	3.06
American	247.00	262.10	-1.10	0.94
Pacific	294.30	314.80	-1.30	0.86
European	444.10	475.00	-1.40	1.25
Worldwide	75.15	80.37	-0.56	1.45
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	297.40	316.40	-2.50	2.98
UK Sm Cos Eqty	192.20	204.50	-0.90	2.90
European	317.30	337.80	...	2.01
North American	248.70	264.60	...	0.59
Income Plus Inc	63.50	67.56	-0.48	4.14
UK Spec Sits	64.24	68.35	-0.49	2.73
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	24.67	26.40	-0.21	3.19
Intl Growth Acc	27.02	28.92	-0.18	1.22
Global Inc Acc	30.08	32.20	-0.21	4.30
Market Ldrs Acc	25.40	27.19	-0.28	3.08
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	81.76	87.44	...	...
Euro Spec Sits	43.05	45.88	...	...
-do- Acc	45.58	48.57	...	...
Far East Oppd	29.27	31.54	...	...
-do- Acc	30.07	32.40	...	...
General Growth	97.05	103.90	...	2.21
Global Tech	114.20	123.20	...	...
Income Growth	99.00	106.40	...	3.80
Income Monthly	56.15	60.05	...	4.68
Japan Growth	70.10	74.54	...	...
Overseas Gth	72.77	77.93	...	...
Smaller Cos	69.56	74.29	...	1.78
Special Opps	98.76	106.10	...	2.32
Wld Spec Sits	44.35	47.69	...	...
-do- Acc	44.45	47.80	...	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	42.68	45.32	...	1.91
Equity Gth Acc	57.67	61.28	-0.30	1.24
UK Eq General	41.57	44.17	-0.10	2.39
-do- Acc	54.55	57.96	-0.10	2.39
European Acc	40.17	42.69	+0.40	1.23
Far East Acc	49.19	52.27	-0.20	0.29
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	30.81	32.59	...	6.72
N American Acc	43.67	46.40	...	0.77
O/I Lgr Cos Acc	259.30	281.30	-0.10	1.65
UK Eq High Inc	34.96	37.15	-0.20	3.85
-do- Acc	40.95	43.51	-0.30	3.85
UK Lgr Cos Inc	286.10	310.50	-0.30	3.84
UK Lgr Cos Acc	368.10	399.40	-0.90	3.84
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Bishops Court, 20 [illegible] Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	R253.28	R283.59	+0.005	1.24
US Eq	$2.060	$2.197	+0.005	0.84
Far East Eq	Y200.5	Y222.3	+2.70	...
Japan Eq	Y208.6	Y221.5	+0.60	...
FT Europe	111.00	117.90	-1.40	2.28
FT North Am	$1.723	$1.826	-0.011	1.12
FT Japan	Y210.5	Y223.6	+5.50	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	115.20	122.30	-1.10	1.89
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	342.80	364.10	+1.50	0.29
British	922.30	975.40	+1.70	4.35
European	374.80	399.20	-2.30	1.50
Japan	124.70	132.70	-2.70	...
New Pacific	279.00	298.10	-0.40	1.31
Mngd Cash	96.25	96.25	...	5.34
Majority Stg	100.46	101.46	+0.01	5.24
Inv Tst	177.80	188.50	+0.40	1.91
Saints PPP	372.30	391.90	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin, 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	712.20	761.70	...	2.59
N America Acc	111.30	119.30	...	0.12
Far East Acc	111.30	119.00	...	...
W'wide Bond	62.33	66.17	...	5.30
European	79.79	85.34	...	0.74
Equity Income	81.14	86.78	...	3.71
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	34.31	36.70	...	0.77
Managed Assets	115.52	123.56	...	3.67
UK Income	35.82	38.32	...	3.28
UK Growth	35.29	37.75	...	3.23
Worldwide Gth	29.32	31.36	...	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	200.72	213.53	-1.43	0.19
-do- Acc	220.45	234.53	-1.56	0.19
British Gth	82.34	87.60	-0.01	2.04
-do- Acc	96.68	103.07	-0.01	2.04
European	90.13	95.88	+0.28	0.90
-do- Acc	95.07	101.14	+0.30	0.90
Extra Inc	178.55	189.95	+0.06	4.33
-do- Acc	284.84	303.02	+0.09	4.33
General Unit	255.49	271.80	-0.04	2.74
-do- Acc	504.15	536.31	-0.09	2.74
Income	313.52	333.53	-0.28	3.83
-do- Acc	638.60	679.36	-0.55	3.83
International	467.27	497.10	-0.06	0.65
-do- Acc	610.80	649.79	-0.08	0.65
Pacific	308.51	328.20	-0.25	0.01
-do- Acc	323.10	343.72	-0.27	0.01
Premier Income	50.75	52.86	-0.11	6.78
-do- Acc	104.23	108.57	-0.22	6.78
Nat Resources	93.35	99.31	+1.43	0.73
-do- Acc	102.37	108.90	+1.57	0.73
Selected Opps	91.47	97.31	-0.18	1.24
-do- Acc	114.52	121.83	-0.23	1.24
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	125.20	133.60	-0.50	0.25
Australia	7.156	7.650	-0.010	1.05
Equity	181.10	193.80	+0.10	4.40
Euro Spec Sits	139.80	148.40	+0.30	0.98
Financial	39.50	42.25	-0.25	2.87
Global Opps Inc	86.13	91.88	-0.39	2.19
-do- Acc	89.28	95.23	-0.41	2.19
Gold Gen Inc	42.74	45.80	-0.40	0.96
-do- Acc	81.58	87.40	-0.80	0.96
Income	117.50	125.80	...	4.91
Japan General	131.70	140.10	-1.60	...
Preference	21.99	23.64	-0.11	7.67
UK Capital	101.00	108.20	-0.30	3.12
Worldwide Cap	192.80	205.30	-0.80	3.13
World Income	82.76	88.21	-0.12	3.45
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Smi Cos	66.50	70.93	+3.01	...
-do- Acc	68.58	73.15	+3.10	...
Cash	51.50	51.50	+0.01	6.25
-do- Acc	61.29	61.29	+0.01	6.25
European Opps	60.60	64.56	+0.03	0.46
-do- Acc	61.23	65.26	+0.03	0.46
Far East Opps	133.54	142.46	-0.63	...
-do- Acc	136.65	145.76	-0.64	...
Gold/Nat. Res	38.64	41.21	+0.09	...
-do- Acc	39.75	42.40	+0.10	...
Japan	68.28	72.83	-0.37	...
-do- Acc	68.28	72.83	-0.37	...
Little Dragons	62.76	66.94	+0.29	0.74
-do- Acc	64.39	68.68	+0.32	0.74
Oriental Income	39.16	41.77	-0.11	3.81
-do- Acc	50.01	53.34	-0.16	3.81
Tiger	199.61	212.91	+0.46	1.24
-do- Acc	208.80	222.72	+0.48	1.24
UK Small Cos	65.97	70.58	+0.05	2.31
-do- Acc	76.85	82.17	+0.07	2.31
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	222.30	236.40	...	4.13
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australian Gold	11.90	12.65	-0.17	0.50
Pacific Basin	29.32	31.19	+0.25	0.60
Canadian Gth	38.22	40.65	+0.47	0.10
Global Bond	$0.964	$1.004	-0.000	7.27
Penny Shares	21.23	22.58	+0.10	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 600 3132				
City Reserve	52.39	52.39	+0.01	5.85
Gilt Growth	66.07	68.75	-0.30	...
Gilt Income	52.15	54.27	-0.14	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	109.80	111.20	-0.20	3.50
US Govmnt Bd	$0.713	$0.722	-0.000	...
Challenger	92.49	94.63	-0.37	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 2 Whale Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	65.90	70.10	-0.13	2.21

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. ... No significant data.

NatWest chief attacks failure of City regulation

■ The City believes the proposed Personal Investment Authority may not satisfy the growing need for more effective regulation to protect private investors

By Patricia Tehan -

LORD Alexander, chairman of National Westminster Bank, has launched an attack on regulation in the City.

Speaking at a regulation conference in London yesterday, he said the Financial Services Act, in operation for five years, "has so far failed to deliver a system which is effective enough to provide real investor protection".

Lord Alexander said there was "currently unease and a clear need for action" in regard to protecting the private investor.

The City needs "a single retail regulator for the sale of insurance and pensions", he added. However, he cast doubt on whether the proposed Personal Investment Authority (PIA) would be adequate to fulfill this purpose.

The Securities and Investments Board has proposed a new authority that would merge two regulatory bodies, Fimbra and Lautro, as well as absorb part of the membership of Imro.

Andrew Large, chairman of the SIB, has said investor protection requires setting and delivering high standards for marketing retail products; and for detecting and rooting out incompetence and dishonesty in investment business activities.

Lord Alexander said if the PIA were able to meet these objectives set by Mr Large "my own bank and, I suspect, others will most willingly take part".

But he issued a warning that "if what were to emerge was a compromise, with inadequate standards for entry and less than rigorous monitoring, then we would be much more sceptical.

"It would be unsatisfactory to attempt to solve current difficulties unless we secured demonstrably higher standards.

The object of change, which is always painful and costly, must be better regulation and a higher quality of service."

Paul Tillett, a director of the British Banker's Association, said later that banks, which have voiced doubts about a PIA, would want to see higher standards of supervision in a PIA.

He said there should be entry testing, with no automatic membership; no cross subsidisation between the membership either of compensation or regulatory costs; and "the banks would want to be convinced that the new arrangements provide an improved service for customers".

Speaking at the same conference yesterday, George Staple, the director of the Serious Fraud Office, said: "The time has come for a careful review of the regulators' powers to see whether more cases could be dealt with by them."

But he gave warning that for people at the heart of a serious fraud, the public interest would not normally be served by leaving regulatory bodies to take proceedings before their own tribunals.

Christopher Sharples, chairman of the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), rejected calls for a single regulatory body for financial services.

He said that any statutory body would be "captured by lawyers, cost considerably more, be much less flexible and would be unable to take advantage of the application of subjective peer judgment."

Mr Sharples added that the SFA should be allowed to continue its work unaffected by the debate on the future of retail regulation, arguing instead against regulation of the SFA by the SIB.

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Ready for the recovery: Sir Lawrie Barratt, left, and Frank Eaton are planning to increase the number of units built and strengthen margins

Barratt almost doubles profit

By Carl Mortished

A FALL in interest costs has enabled Barratt Developments, the housebuilder, almost to double pre-tax profits from £2.5 million to £4.8 million in the six months to December 31.

The market was unimpressed, sending the shares down 4p to 132p, but Sir Lawrie Barratt, chairman, said house prices had stabilised and he forecast a slow but sustained recovery.

Barratt made £174 million, selling 2,017 houses at an average of £75,800 compared with turnover of £209 million on 2,128 units at £81,200 in the same period in 1991. Sir Lawrie said the imposition of stamp duty last summer flattened the market for three months. The company is renewing payment of the interim dividend at 1p from earnings of 2p a share (1.4p).

Barratt was Britain's largest housebuilder in the mid-1980s. Today, it ranks about seventh, but Sir Lawrie believes the market has bottomed out and he plans to take Barratt from 5,000 units a year to 8,000 over the next three years, starting in July, aiming to restore margins from 5 per cent to 10 per cent.

Frank Eaton, chief executive, said margins would improve as the company sold more houses on new land prices, averaging £11,800 a unit compared with £13,500 last year.

Sir Lawrie was brought back from retirement in 1991 to restore the company's fortunes and since his return the company has been able to close down 130 sites. That has reduced borrowings from £160 million in June 1991 to the present £80 million.

Barratt's California business made a £2.7 million loss because of recession and high unemployment in the state.

ASB proposes rule change to current asset valuations

By Neil Bennett

THE Accounting Standards Board is proposing far-reaching new rules on the way companies value their assets.

The ASB today publishes *The Role of Valuation in Financial Reporting*, a discussion paper which attacks the current accounting system which uses a mixture of historic cost accounting combined with occasional, discretionary revaluations.

The present system is often abused by companies that refuse to revalue assets for years or even decades, and then announce large profits when they are sold. The existing regime also allows companies to avoid writing down their assets if the directors claim there has not been a permanent fall in their value.

The ASB's paper proposes that companies should be forced to move closer to a system of current valuations, in which properties and quoted investments and commodities are revalued every year. Properties used as working fixed assets of the business are excluded from the requirement.

The board has backed down from its original principle of imposing current valuations on all companies due to the high cost of revaluing assets every year. Instead, it is proposing an evolutionary process in which only larger, quoted companies would be required to revalue assets each year.

Companies would also be allowed to do their own internal revaluations most years, instead of employing external consultants.

David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said the current system of valuation defies logic and is deeply flawed. He said the discussion paper is an attempt to see if there is support for a move to current valuations, but that the ASB could not insist on an immediate change. "There would be a riot if we asked smaller companies to do this," he said.

Tempus, page 27
Accountancy, page 29

Weir lifts profits and payout

By Colin Campbell

WEIR Group, Scotland's largest engineering firm, continues to demonstrate that there can be life in recession.

Pre-tax profits in 1992 rose by 14.5 per cent, to £39.2 million, order books are strong, and the total dividend rises from 10.5p to 11.8p. A two-for-one share split is planned.

Lord Weir, chairman, said new orders booked in 1992, at £373 million, represented "a most satisfactory performance". Of those orders, 23 per cent were associated with the oil industry, but little with the North Sea, where activity had generally fallen. The Middle East and Africa were strong.

The group ended the year with net cash balances of £52.3 million. Sterling's devaluation should help in the short term, and Weir expects further progress in 1993.

The company's products include pumps, valves, and desalination and sewage handling equipment for the water, oil and gas industries. Late in 1991, Weir acquired the Floway group, in California, for £13.7 million. Floway contributed £23.1 million to 1992 turnover and £1.97 million of pre-interest profits.

Berisford favoured by Clarks

By Jon Ashworth

DIRECTORS of C&J Clark, the shoe group based in Somerset, have picked Berisford International as the favoured suitor in a bidding auction that has divided the 1,000-strong Clark family.

Berisford, a restructured financial holding company, was chosen ahead of FIL, a supplier of shoes to Marks and Spencer, and a group of venture capitalists. Clarks has told Berisford to proceed with due diligence and to determine a price ahead of the annual meeting of shareholders on April 30.

The bid is likely to be worth more than £150 million. Clarks has until April 6 to inform shareholders of the terms of the offer. It is also about to publish its results for the year to December.

Alan Bowkett, chief executive of Berisford, said he was delighted that the company had been chosen as the only party to go forward to the next stage of negotiations. He said: "I'm convinced that this represents a marvellous opportunity for both companies to grow substantially from a strong UK manufacturing base with well known brands and a committed workforce."

He has been seeking an acquisition to anchor his expansion plans, but success is by no means assured. Clarks shareholders are divided on the way forward for the company, which has seen the value of its shares tumble in the face of foreign competition.

Amec cuts payout after writedowns

By George Sivell, City Editor

AMEC has cut its final dividend after a £114.6 million charge for property writedowns and closures sent the engineering and construction group into an overall loss for 1992 of £77.7 million.

The loss reduces shareholders' funds from £350.5 million to £242.2 million. Amec is seeking court and shareholder approval to restructure its reserves by setting off £96 million of goodwill written off over the past ten years in the profit and loss account against the share premium account and treating it as a goodwill reserve. The overall level of shareholders' funds will not be affected by this manoeuvre. Amec ended 1991 with distributable reserves of £20 million and will spend £16.8 million on the reduced dividend, part of this year's £94.5 million raid on reserves.

The company ended the year with net cash of £36.5 million (£76.7 million). Final dividends have been cut to 1p a share making 3p for the year (10.25p). The shares rose 5p to 81p. In the write-offs are writedowns of an office development in Brighton and the stake in Power Corporation, a £63 million writedown of land and work in progress and £17.7 million of closure and reorganisation costs.

Building and civil engineering fell from £26.5 million to £22.8 million and mechanical and electrical engineering from £36.3 million to £18.6 million. Property development losses rose from £10 million to £17 million and housing fell from £52.7 million to £24.3 million.

Sir Alan Cockshaw, the chairman, said: "It remains our view that the property market will not improve significantly in the medium term and that recovery in housing will be slow. We therefore seek to continue to reduce our capital employed in these businesses and have rationalised and restructured the sector, withdrawing entirely from speculative property development. The process and energy sector had a good year in 1992, reflecting a record volume of work for clients in the North Sea, especially in platform design and fabrication. The decline in requirements for new offshore platforms during 1993 was anticipated last year and the sector has already shifted its emphasis."



Cockshaw: £77.7m loss

Tempus, page 27

Blenheim makes it 12 in a row

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

BLENHEIM Group has pushed profits ahead for the twelfth successive year, despite the impact of recession on its worldwide exhibition businesses. The pre-tax figure of £49.7 million in the 16 months to December 31 contrasted with £28.3 million in the preceding 12 months.

Neville Buch, chairman, said the recession had arrived at different times in the various markets where Blenheim operated. That had mitigated its effects.

The group's strategy was to concentrate on big exhibitions that had remained resilient, while 90 per cent of its portfolio was outside Britain, bringing benefits from the depreciation of sterling.

Mr Buch said 68 per cent of exhibition space for 1993 was already booked, compared with 63 per cent this time last year. Blenheim is paying a 3.0p final dividend, making a 16-month total of 12.0p (7.83p).

Tempus, page 27

ACORN COMPUTER (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.3m EPS: 2p (0.4p) Div: Nil (nil)	Profits in previous year were £274,000. Turnover up to £48.2m from £40.9m. Olivetti is group's major shareholder	
BARR & W.A.TRUST (Fin) Pre-tax: £3.7m (£4.3m) EPS: 19.1p (20.7p) Div: 7p, mkg 10p (10p)	Motor distribution made good start in current year but leisure and holidays more adversely affected by recession than last year	
BARRY WEHMILLER (Int) Pre-tax: £3.2m (£2.25m) EPS: 5p (3.9p) Div: 2.4p (2.4p)	First half saw increased order intake in South America and the Far East, offsetting downturn in Europe	
JOHNSTON PRESS (Fin) Pre-tax: £9.8m (£7.4m) EPS: 22.7p (17.9p) Div: 4p, mkg 6.25p	Total dividend last year was 5.5p. Comparative figures restated in line with FRS3. No sign of end to the recession	
GIBBS & DANDY (Fin) Pre-tax: £124,000 loss EPS: 1.4p loss Div: Nil (nil)	Loss in previous year was £754,000 with a 8.9p loss per share. Return to profit in current year arises from cost-cutting	
LAMBERT H'TH (Fin) Pre-tax: £2.99m (£3.3m) EPS: 39.2p (39.3p) Div: 8.75p, mkg 13p	Total dividend in previous year was 12.5p. Turnover up to £54.4m from £48.5m. Sales in first two months ahead of last year	
LINCAT GROUP (Int) Pre-tax: £549,000 EPS: 5.4p (1p) Div: 2p (1.8p)		Interim profits last time were £106,000. Turnover up to £6.5m from £5.16m. Rise in demand continues
RICARDO GROUP (Int) Pre-tax: £875,000 EPS: 1.04p (2.48p) Div: 1.9p (1.9p)		Interim profits last time were £1.2m. Provision against loss on disposal of property was £850,000. Company says prospects are good
RICH'SON W'GARTH (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.9m (£1.76m) EPS: 4.7p (4.5p) Div: 1.75p, mkg 3p (2.9p)		Market remains difficult to read, with steel producers having some success with price increases but demand far from robust
SHEFFIELD INS. (Fin) Pre-tax: £2.95m (£1.5m) EPS: 7.9p (3.7p) Div: 3.6p, mkg 5.4p		Total dividend last year was 5.4p. Gearing steady at 41%, against 42%. Bad debts 1% of sales, down from 16%
WETH'SPOON (JD) (Int) Pre-tax: £1.49m (£1m) EPS: 5.9p (6.5p) Div: 1.8p (nil)		Sales rose to £13.2m from £9.9m. Since flotation five additional licences obtained for unlicensed premises for development
STEEL BURRILL JNS (Fin) Pre-tax: £13.27m (£10.9m) EPS: 18.11p (20.66p) Div: 9p, mkg 13.25p		Total dividend last year was 13.25p. Previous results restated to comply with FRS3. Capacity constraints will be less significant in 1994

THE TIMES
BUSINESS TO BUSINESS
APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY
TELEPHONE IAN TURNER
071 481 3024
or Fax 071 481 9313

Bernard Matthews payout cut

BERNARD Matthews, the turkey and meats company, has cut its annual dividend from 4.5p to 2.25p after a drop from £13.2 million to £3.39 million in pre-tax profits earned in the 53 weeks ended January 3. Low prices for whole turkeys and commodity meats and difficult trading conditions in the second half, coupled with a write-off of start-up losses associated with the venture in France, are blamed for the profits setback.

Heavy marketing costs are likely in France this year, and no profit from this market is expected until 1994, the group said. The planned expansion in Europe, which includes the recent purchase of a company in Hungary for £2.69 million cash, is within the group's banking facilities, the company added.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
BROOK SHAW HOLDINGS LIMITED
IN RECEIVERSHIP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a meeting of the Creditors of Brook Shaw Holdings Limited will be held at 9 Bond Court, Leeds, LS1 2SN on the 6th day of April 1993 at 10.00am. The joint administrative receivers' report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the Joint Administrative Receivers at 9 Bond Court, Leeds LS1 2SN no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986. Copies of the Joint Administrative Receivers' report will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the Joint Administrative Receivers for a copy at the above address.
Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debt after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.
Dated the 19th day of March 1993
R Marsh
Joint Administrative Receiver

NOTICE OF CREDITORS MEETING
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF EDEN PROPERTIES LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above company will be held at 12.00 pm on Monday 5 April 1993 at The County Hotel, Bolchergate, Carlisle for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the joint administrative receivers in accordance with the said section, and if thought fit appointing a committee.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of their security, as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order or in liquidation.
Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with me at the offices of Price Waterhouse 89 Sandyford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1PL no later than 12 noon on 2 April 1993.
DATED this 12 day of March 1993
A E James
Joint Administrative Receiver

LEAPFIELD MARITIME LIMITED (Late of Property Act Receivership)
Registered Number: 1450740.
Former Company Name. Leapfield Limited. Nature of business: Bonded Warehousing. Trade classification: 32 Date of appointment of LPA Receivers: 11th March 1993. Name of person appointing the LPA Receivers: The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc. Joint Law of Property Act Receivers: Brian Mills and Peter Anthony Lawrence (office Holder Nos. 2305 & 6829) of Touche Whiley, 6 Raleigh House, Admirals Way, Waterside, London, E14 9SN.

LETEX FINANCE LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
On 5th March 1993 the company was placed into members' voluntary liquidation and Jacqueline B Stephenson of Lupton Crossley & Davis, 7 Kendrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules, 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claims against the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 29th April 1993 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that she will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated 17th March 1993
Jacqueline B Stephenson.
Liquidator

BAR (AUTOMOTIVE) LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Take notice that the undersigned, J C Heath of Hanks Wallis Insolvency Services, 51 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, was appointed Liquidator of BAR (AUTOMOTIVE) LIMITED, by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on the 12th day of March 1993
Dated this 25th day of March 1993
J C HEATH, Liquidator.

COOLING GALLERIES (LONDON) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, 12th Floor, London, W2 6LF, on Thursday, the 8th day of April, 1993, at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated the 19th day of March 1993.
L. HERSHAM, Director.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDER
EQUATORIAL BANK PLC
Registered number: 1639008
Nature of business: Banking. Trade classification: 38 Administration Order made, 19 March 1993. Joint Administrators: Gareth Howard Hughes and Margaret Elizabeth Mills (office holder nos: 6829 and 3318).

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF CREDITORS MEETING
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF EDEN SURFACING LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above company will be held at 11.30 am on Monday 5 April 1993 at The County Hotel, Bolchergate, Carlisle for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the joint administrative receivers in accordance with the said section, and if thought fit appointing a committee.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of their security, as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order or in liquidation.
Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with me at the offices of Price Waterhouse 89 Sandyford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1PL no later than 12 noon on 2 April 1993.
DATED this 12 day of March 1993
A E James
Joint Administrative Receiver

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF SOLID DEAL LIMITED
Company Number: 2687197
On 23 March 1993 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Richard James Rees of Price Waterhouse, Southgate House, 61 Millstone Lane, Leicester was appointed Liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators, at the above address by 27 April 1993 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
23 March 1993
R J Rees, Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
ASSOCIATED COMPUTER & OFFICE SUPPLIES LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 16th March 1993. Dated this 19th day of March 1993.
M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF CREDITORS MEETING
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 and IN THE MATTER OF EDEN CONSTRUCTION LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the CREDITORS of the above company will be held at 10.00 am on Monday 5 April 1993 at The County Hotel, Bolchergate, Carlisle for the purposes of having laid before it the report prepared by the joint administrative receivers in accordance with the said section, and if thought fit appointing a committee.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or vote at the meeting. Creditors who are partly secured may only vote in respect of the balance of the amount due to them after deducting the value of their security, as estimated by them. A creditor in respect of debt due on, or secured by, a bill of exchange or promissory note must treat the liability of any person who is liable on the bill antecedently to the company as security held by him unless that other person is subject to a bankruptcy order or in liquidation.
Creditors wishing to vote at the above meeting must lodge a written statement of their claims with me at the offices of Price Waterhouse 89 Sandyford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1PL no later than 12 noon on 2 April 1993.
DATED this 12 day of March 1993
A E James
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
BROOK SHAW
FLEETDRIVE LIMITED
IN RECEIVERSHIP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that a meeting of the Creditors of Brook Shaw Fleetdrive Limited will be held at 9 Bond Court, Leeds, LS1 2SN on the 6th day of April 1993 at 10.15am. The joint administrative receivers' report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the Joint Administrative Receivers at 9 Bond Court, Leeds LS1 2SN no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986. Copies of the Joint Administrative Receivers' report will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the Joint Administrative Receivers for a copy at the above address.
Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debt after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.
Dated the 19th day of March 1993
R J Rees
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
MOYLLES LTD
Trading Name: MOYLLE LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 14 April 1993 at The Old Bakery, Lower Clower Road, Royston, Herts, SG8 5EA at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington of FIPA of 3, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(b) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 9th day of March 1993
By ORDER of THE BOARD
Mike Moylan, DIRECTOR

PUBLIC NOTICES

Pastoral Measure 1983
The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft Pastoral scheme providing for the redundancy and demolition of the parish church of The Holy Angels, Clarremont in the diocese of Manchester and for its replacement by a new place of worship within the parish. Copies of the draft scheme may be obtained from the Church Commissioners, 1 Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ to whom any representations should be made by 22 April 1993.

هكذا من الأصل

Leyland staff call on Major

Leyland Daf workers yesterday presented a 22,000-name petition to the prime minister, urging the government to do more to save jobs.

Workers from the factory in Leyland, Lancashire, arrived at Downing Street in a new Daf truck to deliver the petition, which urges the government to play a more active role *in saving the plant and its* 1,400 jobs.

Bill Jordan, president of the AEEU engineering union, said the hopes of 22,000 workers had arrived on Mr Major's doorstep: "We hope that the prime minister will put action behind his words about defending Britain's manufacturing industry."

Gillette starts to woo Parker

Gillette began its $425 million offer for Parker Pen yesterday, after winning the first round of a court battle with the US justice department, which claims a merger violates antitrust laws, giving Gillette 40 per cent of the premium pen market and a stronger position to raise prices of Waterman and Duofold products.

A Washington judge refused to grant a temporary order blocking the deal while the full case is argued in court.

Town Centre up

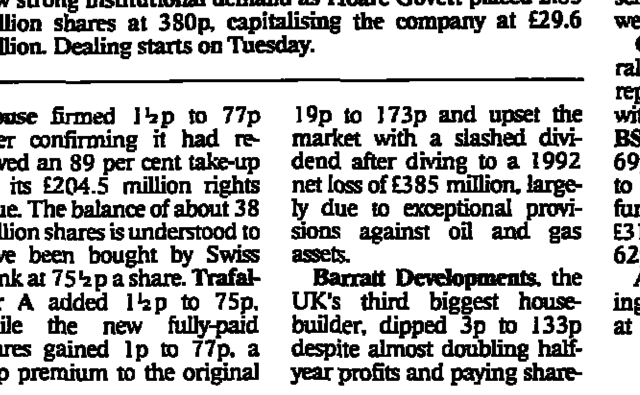
Town Centre Securities, the Leeds-based property investment company, increased gross rental income by 10 per cent to £8.9 million in the six months to December 31, boosting interim pre-tax profit from £3.3 million to £3.6 million. Since June, £10 million has been spent on investment portfolio additions and the minority interest in its Scottish subsidiary was bought. The interim is 1.1p (1p).

STOCK MARKET

Grove Trust sells bulk of stake in George Wimpey

GROVE Charity Management Trust has sold virtually all of its remaining 34 per cent per cent stake in George *Wimpey, one of Britain's biggest housebuilders.*

S.G. Warburg Securities and Cazenove, the broker, have placed a total of 84.3 million shares as part of a bought deal. Grove will continue to hold 5 per cent of Wimpey. The 29 per cent stake was placed with a number of institutions at 132.5p per share, a 13.5p discount to Tuesday's closing price. **Wimpey** shares lost 4p to 142p, as turnover swelled to 206 million shares.



The trust, formed by Sir Godfrey Mitchell, who developed Wimpey into an international company, had in recent years reduced its stake from 49.97 per cent. Sir John Quinton, Wimpey's chairman, said: "We are pleased that the trust will remain a large shareholder."

Robert Donald of NatWest Securities said of the stake sale: "It clearly signals the latest transition of Wimpey from a publicly quoted company with a family-type culture, to a company with a more commercial culture. It also frees the hand of the company to raise capital at a *later date if it so wishes," he* added. Kenneth Costa, a director of SG Warburg, said the Wimpey price had recovered from its low of 62p six months ago to a level at which the trust had felt it could now sell the bulk of its investment.

Meanwhile, equities were again in the doldrums, with shares drifting lower, although an initial positive start to trading on Wall Street enabled prices in London to close off the bottom. The FT-SE 100 index clawed back a futures-related 17.4 point deficit to finish 0.5 lower at 2,860.6. Turnover was also boosted to 833 million shares by seasonal "bed-and-breakfast" deals designed to establish a tax loss. **Trafalgar House** firmed 1½p to 77p after confirming it had received an 89 per cent take-up for its £204.5 million rights issue. The balance of about 38 million shares is understood to have been bought by Swiss Bank at 75½p a share. **Trafalgar A** added 1½p to 75p, while the new fully-paid shares gained 1p to 77p, a 17p premium to the original offer price. The City is relieved that **Barclays** has decided to look for an outside candidate to take on the role of chief executive. The bank, which has been under pressure to make top managerial changes since reporting hefty losses for 1992, firmed 5p to 415p. Andrew Buxton will retain the role of chairman. **Lasmo** slid 19p to 173p and upset the market with a slashed dividend after diving to a 1992 net loss of £385 million, largely due to exceptional provisions against oil and gas assets.

Barratt Developments, the UK's third biggest housebuilder, dipped 3p to 133p despite almost doubling half-year profits and paying shareholders an interim once again. But **Amec** advanced 5p to 81p, despite cutting its dividend as provision-laden taxable losses surged to £87.5 million (£13.1 million loss).

Kingfisher, up 3p to 544p, lifted "clean" pre-tax profits to £234.4 million (£221.8 million), slightly ahead of the £233 million forecast at the time of the Darty merger, helped by a sharp improvement at Comet.

Cadbury Schweppes gained 8p to 490p, bolstered by good profits from Nestlé and by a reiterated 'buy' recommendation from BZW.

Drug shares remained weak after the recent profit-warnings from Merck and Co, the US drugs group, and concern about American health cutbacks. **Glaxo Holdings** fell 17p to 597p, while **SmithKline Beecham**, which in the wake of Budget changes has adjusted its 1992 fourth quarter dividend to 2.533p, instead of 2.375p previously, saw its A shares drop 12½p to 416p. **Wellcome**, due to report interim figures today, shed 20p to 890p, while some selling pressure left **ICI** 16p weaker at £12.05.

Carlton Communications rallied 27p to 748p after reports of positive meetings with a number of brokers. **BSG International** fell 8p to 69p after becoming the latest to tap the market for fresh funds with a one-for-four £31.4 million rights issue, at 62p a share.

A profit and dividend warning left **John Foster** 4p lower at 18p.

PHILIP PANGALOS

Quality Software Products, a developer of financial and management information systems that is coming to the market, saw strong institutional demand as Hoare Govett placed 2.85 million shares at 380p, capitalising the company at £29.6 million. Dealing starts on Tuesday.

Jardine advances but issues a warning

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

JARDINE Matheson Holdings yesterday announced net profits up 17 per cent to US$316.8 million for the year to end-December, but gave warning that 1993 results may not be as strong.

Henry Keswick, the chairman, said: "With renewed political uncertainty in Hong Kong, and recovery in some western economies and Japan likely to be slow, it may not be easy in 1993 to match the growth of recent years."

The Jardine group may be affected by Chinese politics in the run-up to 1997. It stands out as the symbol of British influence and interests in the colony, and is hence singled out for attack by Chinese officials, who were highly critical when Jardine moved its primary listing to London last year in a show of no-confidence for the post-1997 administration. The group's assets are domiciled in Bermuda and listed in London. It is also shifting more of its investments out of Hong Kong.

After-tax profits for 1992 were further boosted by an extraordinary gain of US$30.7 million from the sale of Dairy Farm's manufacturing interests in China. Jardine said: "The foundation for another good result in 1992 was the resilience of the Asia-Pacific economies, especially those of Hong Kong and China, where the group continued to invest, building on its traditional strengths."

Fully diluted earnings per share rose by 13 per cent to US54.59 cents. A US15 cents final will be paid, making a total dividend of US18.7 cents, an increase of 14 per cent.

Dow takes a sudden turn for the worse

New York — Wall Street shares took a downward turn in early afternoon trading, with the Dow Jones industrial average retreating 11.08 points to 3,450.78. Declining shares inched ahead of advancing stocks.

Traders said it was not clear what sparked the downturn after the market weathered a warning by Merck and Co, the drugs group, that its 1993 earnings would be hurt.

Ed Nicoski, of Piper Jaffray, said: "Aside from the healthcare stocks, the market has been fine."

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares edged down, shedding gains lodged in morning trading on profit-taking before March 31 book-closing.

The Nikkei index ended down 40.93 points to 18,450.69, with an estimated 350 million shares traded.

☐ **Hong Kong** — The market closed sharply higher on growing belief that the political row with Peking poses no threat to the colony's booming economy. The Hang Seng index ended at the day's high, up 94.24 points at 6,212.19, after a session of busy trading.

☐ **Frankfurt** — The Dax index ended 11.01 points higher at 1,659.45.

(Reuter)

	Mar 24 midday	Mar 23 close
AMP Inc	60	59
AMR Corp	63	63
Abbott Labs	27	27
Aetna Life	46	46
Ahmanson (HF)	19	19
Air Prod & Chem	44	43
Albertson's	55	54
Alcan Aluminum	19	19
Alco Standard	45	44
Allied Signal	68	68
Alum Co of Am	68	69
Amax	19	19
Amerada Hess	52	52
Amer Brands	33	33
Amer Cyanamid	50	51
Amer El Power	36	35
Amer Express	26	26
Amer Genl Corp	31	30
Amer Home Pr	62	63
Amer Intl	125	122
Amer Stores	41	41
Amer T & T	57	57
Ameritech	76	76
Amoco	58	56
Anheuser-Busch	54	53
Apple Computer	54	52
Archer Daniels	26	26
Arkla	8	8
Armco	7	7
Armstrong Wrld	34	34
Asarco	24	24
Ashland Oil	28	28
Atl Richfield	117	119
Auto Data Pro	51	50
Avery Dennison	27	27
Avon Products	60	59
Baker Hughes	23	22
Baltim Gas & El	25	25
Banc One	57	56
BankAmerica	50	51
Bank of NY	57	55
Bankers Tr NY	73	73
Barnett Banks	46	46
Bausch & Lomb	54	54
Baxter Intl	29	29
Becton Dicknsn	36	36
Bell Atlantic	54	53
BellSouth	54	54
Black & Decker	18	18
Block (H&R)	37	37
Boeing	35	35
Boise Cascade	26	26
Borden Inc	26	26
Bristol Myrs Sq	57	58
Browning Ferris	26	26
Burlington Nthn	50	49
CBS	205	203
CNA Financial	95	94
CPC Intl	45	45
CSX	70	70
Campbell Soup	43	43
Can Pacific	14	14
Cptl Cities ABC	525	513
Cptl Holdings	77	75
Carolina Pwr	32	32
Caterpillar	59	59
Central & SW	32	32
Champion Intl	30	30
Chase Manhat	34	35
Chemical Bk	40	40
Chevron Corp	80	80
Chrysler	39	39
Chubb Corp	93	91
Cigna Corp	63	63
Citicorp	29	29
Clorox	51	50
Coastal Corp	27	26
Coca Cola	41	41
Colgate-Palmolive	64	64
Columbia Gas	22	22
Commonw Ed	28	27
Compaq Comp	48	47
Cmp Ass Intl	23	23
Conagra	27	27
Cons Edison	35	35
Cons Nat Gas	49	48
Cons Rail	59	59
Cooper Inds	53	52
Corning Inc	33	33
Crown Cork	39	39
Dana Corp	45	45
Dayton Hudson	78	77
Deere	53	53
Delta Air Lines	51	51
Deluxe Corp	43	42
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	44	45
Dillard Dept St	43	43
Disney (Walt)	44	44
Dominion Res	43	43
Donelley (RR)	30	29
Dover Corp	49	49
Dow Chemicals	52	52
Dow Jones	32	31
Dresser	20	19
Duke Power	39	39
Dun & Brdstreet	60	59
Du Pont	48	48
Eastman Kodak	55	55
Eaton Corp	86	84

	Mar 24 midday	Mar 23 close
Emerson Elec	59	59
Engelhard Corp	42	42
Enron Corp	61	61
Entergy Corp	35	35
Ethyl Corp	28	28
Exxon	65	64
FMC Corp	49	48
FPL Group	37	37
Federal Express	56	55
Fed Nat Mtge	79	79
First Chicago	42	42
First Interstate	35	35
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Finl Grp	35	35
Fluor Corp	43	43
Ford Motor	52	53
GTE Corp	36	36
Gannett	52	51
Gap Inc Del	32	32
Gen Cinema	35	35
Gen Dynamics	117	116
Gen Electric	89	88
Gen Mills	71	71
Gen Motors	40	40
Gen Reinsurance	115	114
Gen Signal	65	64
Genuine Parts	35	35
Georgia Pac	63	63
Gillette	59	59
Glaxo ADR	17	18
Goodrich (BF)	47	47
Goodyear Tire	76	75
Grace (WR)	39	39
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23	23
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	37	36
Heinz (HJ)	40	39
Hercules	79	74
Hershey Foods	55	55
Hewlett-Packard	74	74
Hilton Hotels	46	46
Home Depot	61	63
Homestake	14	13
Honeywell	33	33
Household Intl	70	69
Houston Inds	47	47
Humana	7	7
ITT Corp	78	77
Illinois Tool	74	74
INCO	24	24
Ingersoll Rand	32	32
Inland Steel	23	23
Intel Corp	114	112
IBM	53	53
Intl Flav & Fr	112	112
Intl Paper	65	65
James River Va	19	19
Johnsn & Jhnsn	39	40
K Mart	24	24
Kellogg	61	60
Kerr-McGee	48	47
Kimberly-Clark	54	53
Knight-Ridder	57	57
Lilly (Eli)	45	47
Limited Inc	22	23
LIN Brdcstng	82	83
Lincoln Nat	80	78
Litton	54	52
Liz Claiborne	36	36
Lockheed Corp	62	63
Louisiana Pac	72	71
MCI Communcn	45	44
Marriott	26	26
Marsh & McLnn	94	94
Martin Marietta	72	72
Masco Corp	34	34
May Dept St	76	76
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	36	37
McDonalds	53	53
McDonnell D	54	54
McGraw Hill	61	61
Mead Corp	43	43
Medtronic	71	73
Mellon Bk	59	59
Melville Corp	48	48
Merck Inc	34	36
Merrill Lynch	69	69
Minnesota Mine	111	109
Mobil Corp	69	69
Monsanto	52	52
Morgan (JP)	69	68
Motorola Inc	64	63
Natl Medical	9	9
Natl Semi	13	13
Natl Service Ind	24	24
Navistar Int	2	2
NBD Bancorp	35	35
NY Times A	31	31
Newmont Mng	43	43
Niag Mohawk	22	22
Nike B	77	76
NL Industries	5	4
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthrn	64	64
Nthn State Pwr	46	46
Norwest Corp	50	49
Nynex Corp	90	89
Occidental Pet	21	21
Ohio Edison	24	24

	Mar 24 midday	Mar 23 close
Oracle Systems	35	34
Oryx Energy Co	22	23
PNC Financial	33	33
PPG Industries	69	68
Paccar Inc	64	65
Pacificorp	18	18
Pac Enterprises	23	23
Pac Gas & Elect	34	34
Pac Telesis	48	48
Pall Corp	17	17
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramount Comm	48	48
Parker Hannifin	33	32
Penney (JC)	87	86
Pennzoil	57	55
Pepsico	42	41
Pfizer	58	59
Phelps Dodge	52	52
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	63	63
Phillips Pet	29	28
Pitney Bowes	41	41
Polaroid	29	28
Price Co	32	33
Primerica	46	44
Procter & Gmbl	50	50
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	65	66
Ralston Purina	50	50
Raychem Corp	39	40
Raytheon	57	56
Reebok Intl	36	36
Reynolds Metals	52	51
Roadway Srvcs	63	64
Rockwell Intl	29	28
Rohm & Haas	56	56
Royal Dutch	87	87
Rubbermaid	32	33
Safeco Corp	63	63
St Paul's Cos	79	78
Salomon Inc	39	39
Santa Fe S Pac	14	14
Sara Lee Corp	28	28
Scecorp	49	48
Schering Plough	56	59
Schlumberger	57	59
Scott Paper	38	38
Seagram	28	28
Sears Roebuck	52	52
Shell Trans	51	50
Sherwin Wlms	33	32
Skyline Corp	19	19
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	41	41
Sthwestern Bell	73	73
Sprint Corp	30	30
Stanley Works	43	43
Sun Company	29	29
Suntrust	46	46
Supervalu	31	31
Syntex Corp	18	18
Sysco Corp	25	26
TRW Inc	62	62
Tandem Comp	13	12
Tandy Corp	28	28
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	22	22
Temple Inland	48	48
Tenneco	46	45
Texaco	63	62
Texas Inst	58	58
Texas Utilities	44	44
Textron	45	45
Time Warner	34	34
Times-Mirror	33	33
Timken	29	29
Torchmark	61	61
Toys R Us	41	40
Transamerica	49	49
Travelers Corp	27	26
Tribune	54	55
Tyco Labs	45	45
UAL Corp	121	120
UST Inc	28	28
USX Marathon	19	19
Unilever NV	116	115
Union Camp	45	45
Union Carbide	17	17
Union Pacific	61	60
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAir Group	17	17
USF&G Corp	16	16
US Life	38	38
US West	42	42
United Tech	47	46
Unocal Corp	29	28
Upjohn	28	28
VF Corp	53	53
Wal-Mart Stores	33	32
Warner-Lambert	67	68
Waste Mgmnt Inc	34	34
Wells Fargo	107	108
Westinghouse El	14	13
Weyerhaeuser	44	43
Whirlpool	51	51
Whitman	14	14
Winn Dixie	69	68
Woolworth	30	31
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	34	33
Xerox	84	83

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT stocks had a quiet day, with most prices levelling off after recent falls. The gilt market's attention has turned to trading in the £3 billion of new stock due to be auctioned by the Bank of England next Wednesday. The newly announced 8 per cent 2013 stock fell in morning trading before the auction, but came back to close down only £1/32 at £45 22/32, which would yield 8.438 per cent. Some dealers are a little weary, as the sizable auction is on the last day of the institutions' financial year; others say the Bank of England has no doubt done its homework.

Late support helped the gilt future add seven ticks to £105 19/32, on a volume of 25,000 contracts. Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 ended 5/32 lower at £111 13/32. Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was 13/16 lower at £105 5/16.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
104	100	Treas 12½% 1993	102	...	12.25	5.74
100	95	Fund 6% 1993	100	...	5.99	5.60
107	103	Treas 13¾% 1993	105	...	13.06	5.67
102	96	Treas 8¼% 1994	102	...	8.30	5.70
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	107	...	13.43	5.71
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	108	...	12.49	5.78
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	104	...	9.55	5.84
110	103	Exch 12¼% 1994	108	...	11.48	5.90
105	96	Treas 9% 1994	104	...	8.59	5.97
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	110	-	10.89	6.09
96	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	96	...	3.12	4.85
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	108	-	9.42	6.15
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	115	-	11.02	6.23
120	109	Treas 14% 1996	119	-	11.74	6.45
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	124	-	12.30	6.60
120	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	118	-	11.17	6.60
111	98	Conv 10% 1996	110	-	9.04	6.67
122	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	121	-	10.92	6.80
113	100	Exch 10½% 1997	112	-	9.33	6.77
108	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	107	-	8.15	6.78
132	117	Exch 15% 1997	131 †	-	11.45	6.99
112	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	111	-	8.75	6.92
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
109	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	102 †	-	7.14	6.74
101	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100	-	6.75	6.75
138	123	Treas 15½% 1998	137 †	-	11.30	7.21
122	107	Exch 12% 1998	121	-	9.89	7.32
112	97	Treas 9½% 1999	111	-	8.54	7.12
124	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	123 †	-	9.93	7.36
117	101	Treas 10½% 1999	116	-	9.04	7.21
117	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	115	-	8.88	7.27
110	94	Conv 9% 2000	109	-	8.21	7.20
131	114	Treas 13% 2000	129	-	10.03	7.62
115	99	Treas 10% 2001	114	-	8.76	7.59
129	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	128	-	10.93	7.38
114	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	113	-	8.62	7.75
53	46	Treas 8pc 2003	52	-	7.84	7.70
116	100	Treas 10% 2003	114	-	8.73	7.91
122	107	Treas 11½% 2001-04	121	-	9.48	7.86
74	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	72	-	4.83	7.07
112	96	Conv 9½% 2004	110	-	8.60	8.08
112	96	Conv 9½% 2005	110	-	8.58	8.11
131	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	129	-	9.64	8.23
101	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	99	-	8.03	8.06
125	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	123	-	9.50	8.18
104	89	Treas 8½% 2007	102	-	8.31	8.21
139	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	137 †	-	9.81	8.22
LONGS (over 15 years)						
108	93	Treas 9% 2008	106 †	-	8.47	8.26
99	85	Treas 8% 2009	97	-	8.21	8.30
108	93	Conv 9% 2011	105	-	8.54	8.40
108	93	Treas 9% 2012	105	-	8.55	8.42
76	62	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74	-	7.40	8.14
97	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	94	-1½	8.24	8.33
135	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	132	-	9.06	8.60
105	91	Treas 8¾% 2017	102	-	8.94	8.46
UNDATED						
48	39	Consols 4%	46	-	8.53	...
42	35	War Ln 3½%	41	-	8.50	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	62 †	...	5.64	...
31	24	Consols 2½%	30	-	8.11	...
30	24	Treas 2½%	29 †	-	8.51	...
INDEX-LINKED						
133	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	131	-	...	1.76
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	195 †	-	1.67	2.46
109	100	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108 †	-	2.17	2.78
166	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	165	-	2.65	3.01
163	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	-	2.79	3.09
111	101	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	110 †	-	2.94	3.23
170	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	168	-	2.97	3.21
154	124	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152	-	3.17	3.38
159	129	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157	-	3.24	3.43
131	109	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129	-	3.31	3.49
139	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138	-	3.37	3.54
133	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132 †	-	3.44	3.58
111	89	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109	-	3.47	3.60
111	91	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	110	-	3.48	3.61

RECENT ISSUES

Anglo United Warrants	½	...
David Lloyd Leisure (150)	184	-4
For & Col US Sir Cos (100)	103	+½
For & Col US Sir Wts	41	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	78	...
Motor World (210)	278	...
Pilot Inv Trust (100)	96½	...
Pilot Inv Wts	27	...
Schroder Split Fund (100)	103	-1
-do- Split Fund Cap (20)	21	...
-do- Split Zero Div Pf (100)	101½	...
Wts & Value Inv Tst (25)	25¾	...
Yorkshire Food (110)	129	+1

RIGHTS ISSUES

British Polythene n/p (405)	71	...
Cupid n/p (28)	9	-3
Gold Gmls Trott n/p (239)	47	...
Lopex n/p (17)	4	+½
Pendragon n/p (225)	34	...
Vickers n/p (95)	24	-5
WPP n/p (45)	7	-1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
HSBC	607p (+11p)
Steel Burrill	261p (+10p)
Carlton Comm	748p (+27p)
Lex Service	335p (+16p)
Burmah Castrol	698p (+10p)
BT	420p (+13p)
API	288p (-10p)
LASMO	173p (-19p)
FALLS:	
Blick	477p (-18p)
Young 'A'	493p (-12p)
Lambert	445p (-30p)
Hammerson	388p (-10p)
Caffyns	308p (-10p)
Barr & W 'A'	218p (-22p)
Liberty Life	926p (-11p)
SKF 'B'	675p (-12½p)
Securicor 'A'	600p (-10p)
Siebe	449p (-11p)
Smithkline	416p (-12½p)
Wellcome	890p (-20p)

Closing Prices Page 32

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	2,100	Coats Vyla	2,300	Legal & Gn	3,500	Scot & New	3,100
Alld-Lyons	1,500	Cm Union	579	Lloyds Bk	4,500	Scot Power	1,600
Anglian W	1,000	Courtaulds	469	MB Cardn	1,700	Sears	990
Argyll Gp	3,500	De La Rue	806	Marks Spr	1,900	Svrn Trent	905
Arjo Wig	1,700	Eng China	938	NFC	380	Shell Trans	3,300
AB Foods	526	Enterpr Oil	1,800	NatWst Bk	2,300	Siebe	1,200
BAA	851	Fisons	2,200	Nat Power	2,700	SmKl Bch	4,100
BAT Inds	2,000	Forte	1,900	Nth Wst W	827	Smith Nph	4,400
BOC	406	GRE	1,400	Nthrn Fds	1,900	Smith (WH)	443
BP	8,000	GUS A	730	P & O	3,100	Sthrn Elec	558
BT	10,000	Gen Acc	1,200	Pearson	1,300	Std Chartd	726
BTR	3,000	Gen Elec	3,500	PowerGen	1,700	Sun Allnce	1,700
Bk of Scot	423	Glaxo	7,800	Prudential	3,800	TI Gp	927
Barclays	3,900	Granada	3,500	RTZ	2,100	TSB	1,200
Bass	1,000	Grand Met	2,100	Rank Org	1,200	Tate & Lyle	755
Blue Circle	1,900	Guinness	1,200	Reckitt Col	1,100	Tesco	3,800
Boots	2,500	HSBC	3,800	Redland	2,600	Thames W	366
Bowater	429	Hanson	5,700	Reed Intl	1,100	Thrn EMI	622
Brit Airwys	3,900	ICI	1,400	Rentokil	2,100	Tomkins	5,100
Brit Gas	9,000	Inchcape	989	Reuters	610	Unilever	2,300
Brit Steel	5,700	Kingfisher	2,400	Rothmans	614	Utd Bisc	3,200
Burmah C	474	Kwik Save	502	Ryl Ins	1,300	Vodafone	3,400
Cable Wire	1,700	LASMO	22,000	Ryl Bk Scot	1,100	Wellcome	2,000
Cadbury	2,800	Ladbroke	2,800	Sainsbury	8,100	Whitbd 'A'	1,500
Carlton C	3,100	Land Secs	5,200	Scot Hydro	1,600	Wilms Hld	1,800

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3465.91 (+4.05)
S&P Composite .... 449.84 (+1.08)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 18450.69 (-40.93)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 6212.19 (+94.24)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 105.9 (-0.2)

Sydney: AO .... 1663.1 (+3.5)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 1659.45 (+11.01)

FT 30 share: .... 2235.5 (-2.7)

Brussels:
General .... 6215.37 (-1.99)

Paris: CAC .... 523.35 (+1.46)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 486.0 (-1.8)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1405.00 (-1.06)
FT 500 .... 1541.23 (-1.21)
FT Gold Mines .... 104.8 (-0.9)
FT Fixed Interest .... 112.27 (-0.57)
FT Govt Secs .... 96.60 (-0.39)
Bargains 36783
SEAQ Volume 833.1m
USM (Datastrm) .... 132.34 (+0.23)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 22	April 2	July 1	July 12

Call options were taken out on 24/3/93: Kwik-Fit, Lasmo, London Fin & Inv, Marley, ML Labs.
Put & Call: Rutland.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 41801	Jun 93 Sep 93	2869.0	2879.0	2855.0	2873.0 2891.0	8691 0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 277486	Jun 93 Sep 93 Dec 93	94.13 94.30 94.30	94.17 94.31 94.30	94.12 94.26 94.25	94.15 94.30 94.26	14427 5999 5535
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 16814	Jun 93 Sep 93	96.69 96.53	96.70 96.53	96.68 96.50	96.69 96.51	631 579
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 483317	Jun 93 Sep 93	92.90 93.68	92.94 93.74	92.83 93.62	92.85 93.65	50601 24276
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 8	Jun 93 Sep 93	110-15	110-20	110-15	110-30 109-22	2 0
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 75216	Mar 93 Jun 93	104-27 105-10	105-01 105-19	104-26 105-08	105-02 105-19	852 26719
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93 Sep 93	109.79	109.79	109.52	109.72 109.18	1139 0
German Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 140770	Jun 93 Sep 93	95.22 95.47	95.41 95.63	95.16 95.47	95.29 95.51	72005 98
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 16043	Jun 93 Sep 93	91.72 92.64	91.73 92.64	91.57 92.49	91.61 92.51	2972 693
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 39210	Jun 93 Sep 93	95.38 95.77	95.44 95.82	95.32 95.75	95.34 95.77	4774 430
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 45506	Jun 93 Sep 93	96.00 95.70	96.25 95.70	95.40 95.70	95.56 95.34	18270 1

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was same at 78.9 (day's range 78.6-78.9).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 24	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7094-2.7173	2.7138-2.7173	⅜-½ds	1-1¼ds
Brussels	49.60-49.92	49.75-49.85	10-16ds	27-39ds
Copenhagen	9.2610-9.2900	9.2680-9.2900	5-9¼ds	20⅝-22⅞ds
Dublin	0.9909-0.9964	0.9943-0.9964	34-40ds	101-115ds
Frankfurt	2.4098-2.4153	2.4120-2.4153	⅜-⅝ds	1¼-1⅝ds
Lisbon	223.92-225.05	224.60-225.05	214-227ds	542-576ds
Madrid	171.91-172.59	172.32-172.59	134-166ds	394-427ds
Milan	2336.10-2363.00	2357.00-2363.00	9-12ds	31-34ds
Montreal	1.8399-1.8506	1.8448-1.8469	0.23-0.13pr	0.40-0.22pr
New York	1.4780-1.4840	1.4830-1.4840	0.38-0.37pr	1.07-1.04pr
Oslo	10.2470-10.2850	10.2620-10.2850	1¾-4¼ds	6½-9¼ds
Paris	8.1880-8.2290	8.2150-8.2290	3⅞-4⅜ds	10⅝-11⅝ds
Stockholm	11.4550-11.5100	11.4780-11.5010	2⅞-5⅜ds	10⅜-13⅝ds
Tokyo	171.87-173.45	173.25-173.45	½-¼pr	1¼-1⅛pr
Vienna	16.91-17.04	16.98-17.03	2⅛-3⅛ds	5⅞-7⅞ds
Zurich	2.2285-2.2378	2.2322-2.2353	¼pr-¼ds	½-⅜pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4782-1.4807
Australia dollar	2.1007-2.1029
Bahrain dinar	0.553-0.565
Brazil cruzeiro*	35227.3-35251.4
Cyprus pound	0.718-0.728
Finland markka	8.672-8.788
Greece drachma	325.75-332.15
Hong Kong dollar	11.4597-11.4689
India rupee	46.25-47.22
Kuwait dinar KD	0.448-0.458
Malaysia ringgit	3.8508-3.8549
Mexico peso	4.53-4.63
New Zealand dollar	2.7840-2.7896
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.4995-5.6255
Singapore dollar	2.4355-2.4386
S Africa rand (fin)	6.7624-6.7968
S Africa rand (com)	4.7040-4.7103
U A E dirham	5.3855-5.5095

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4166-1.4176
Austria	11.482-11.487
Belgium (Com)	33.58-33.62
Canada	1.2450-1.2455
Denmark	6.2600-6.2650
France	5.5485-5.5505
Germany	1.6278-1.6288
Hong Kong	7.7300-7.7310
Ireland	1.4900-1.4910
Italy	1589.4-1590.2
Japan	116.85-116.90
Malaysia	2.5975-2.5985
Netherlands	1.8310-1.8315
Norway	6.9309-6.9339
Portugal	151.50-151.60
Singapore	1.6428-1.6438
Spain	116.20-116.40
Sweden	7.7596-7.7646
Switzerland	1.5090-1.5100

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 6 Week fixed: 5¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¼; 3 mth 5⅜. Sell: 2 mth 5⅛; 3 mth: 5¼.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5⅞-5¹³⁄₁₆	5⅞-5¾	5¾-5⅝	5⅝-5½	
Sterling Money Rates:					
Interbank:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6-5¾	5⅞-5¾
	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6-5¾	5⅞-5¾
Overnight: open 5¾, close 6½					
Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	6	5¾	5¾
Sterling CDs:	6-5⅞	6-5⅞	5⅞-5¾	5¾-5⅝	5¾-5⅝
Dollar CDs:	3.10-3.07	n/a	3.10-3.07	3.18-3.15	3.40-3.37
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6⅛-6	6-5¾	5⅞-5¾

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Feb 26, 1993 Agreed rates Mar 24, 1993 to Apr 25, 1993. Scheme I: 7.35%. Schemes II & III: 7.47%. Reference rate Jan 30, 1993 to Feb 26, 1993. Scheme IV & V: 6.228%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3¼-2¾	3⅛-2⅞	3¼-3	3⅜-3⅛	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark:	8¼-8⅛	8⅛-8	8⅛-7⅞	7⅞-7¾	8⅜-7⅞
French Franc:	11½-11¼	11⅝-11⅜	11¼-11	10⅛-9⅞	11¼-10¾
Swiss Franc:	5⅝-5⅛	5⅞-5⅝	5⅝-5⅜	4⅞-4¾	5¼-4¾
Yen:	4¼-3⅞	3⅝-3¼	3⅝-3⅜	3½-3¼	3⅝-2⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS

Bullion: Open $331.00-331.40. Close: $331.05-331.55 High: $331.05-331.55 Low: $330.20-330.70 Krugerrand: $330.00-332.00 (£221.50-223.50)
Sovereigns: Old $79.00-82.00 (£51.25-53.25) New $79.00-82.00 (£51.25-53.25)
Platinum: $357.25 (£241.80) Silver: $3.68 (£2.475) Palladium: $108.65 (£73.55)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon	550	24	38	49	8	30	37
(*564½)	600	4	17	27	43	65	69
ASDA	67	5½	12	14	2	5	6½
(*71½)	76	3	7½	10	6½	9	11
Bass	550	20	40	55	10	28	34
(*561)	600	4	19	33	43	58	65
Boots	500	19	35	45	8	25	31
(*508)	550	2	14	23	44	57	61
Br Airways	280	11	21	27	7½	23	29
(*283)	300	4	13	20	21	36	39
BP	280	21	30	35	3½	11	16
(*298)	300	7½	18	25	11	21	25
	330	1½	8½	14	36	41	45
Br Steel	80	7	12	14½	2½	7	10
(*84)	90	2	7	10½	8½	13	15
C & W	700	37	59	73	6	29	38
(*728½)	750	9	33	48	32	55	64
CU	580	27	51	57	6½	19	20
(*597½)	629	4½	24	34	35	43	55
Courtauld	550	19	36	49	10	30	37
(*561½)	600	3	16	27	45	62	67
GKN	460	18	39	45	7	19	29
(*468)	500	4	20	28	32	42	62
Grnd Met	420	40	56	63	3	11	17
(*455½)	460	10	31	39	14	28	35
ICI	1200	38½	89	104	27	54	82
(*1205)	1250	16	61	78	53½	82	104
	1300	5½	43	59	97	114	140
Kingfshr	535	19	35	45	8	25	33
(*543½)	584	3	15	25	40	57	63
Ladbroke	180	20	25	33	4	12	16
(*198½)	200	5½	15	24	13	22	28
Land Sec	500	26	34	40	3½	20	23
(*522)	550	2½	10	16	32	54	54
M & S	330	27	34	40	2	11	13
(*353)	360	6½	16	24	12	23	26
Sainsbury	500	18	35	46	7	23	30
(*505)	550	4	15	25	43	55	60
Shell	550	24	42	50	4½	14	23
(*568½)	600	3½	17	25	35	40	49
Smkl Bch	420	14	31	40	13	28	33
(*417)	460	4	16	25	46	53	58
Storehse	180	22	30	34	3	9½	13
(*194)	200	8	18	24	9	20	22
Trafalgar	74	7	12	15	3	7	9
(*77)	83	4	8	11	7	13	14
Unilever	1200	12	47	70	39	56	67
(*1190)	1250	3	28	49	81	90	100
Utd Bisc	390	23	34	43	7½	19	24
(*408)	420	4	20	28	26	35	40

	Series	Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
BAA	750	57	70	83	9	23	30
(*794½)	800	27	42	58	29	46	55
BAT Ind	950	45	67	78	28	40	59
(*990½)	1000	21	41	55	58	75	87
BTR	550	54	64	73	4	8½	15
(*592)	600	19	32	40	21	26	37
Br Aero	260	35	48	60	14	25	33
(*276)	280	24	38	50	24	35	46
Br Telecm	390	38	45	49	3	10	13
(*420)	420	19	26	31	12	23	28
Cadbury	460	44	55	64	6	12	19
(*489½)	500	16	31	39	22	29	36
Guinness	460	17	31	40	25	34	40
(*461)	500	6	16	26	55	60	64
GEC	300	16	22	28	7	14½	17
(*308)	330	5½	9	14	26	35	36
Hanson	220	22	24½	28½	2½	6	9½
(*237)	240	9	13	17½	9½	15½	19½
LASMO	180	11	20	26	17	23	29
(*173)	200	5½	12	19	32	36	42
Lucas	130	14	19	23	6½	10	16
(*138)	140	8	12	18	12	16	22
P & O	600	18	40	52	34	47	65
(*600½)	650	7	22	34	72	80	97
Pilkngtn	110	13	18	23	7	11	15
(*118)	120	8½	15	19	12	17	20
Prudential	300	32	36	42	5½	11	17
(*329)	330	11	18	26	19	24	31
RTZ	650	47	65	79	14	26	38
(*678½)	700	19	39	53	40	49	61
Scot New	460	19	31	36	14	29	34
(*461)	500	6	17	22	41	55	60
Tesco	240	8	15	19	17	21	25
(*233)	260	3½	8	15	33	35	38
Thames W	500	46	51	56	4½	15	19
(*536½)	550	13	21	29	24	41	45
Vodafone	390	23	33	43	14	25	32
(*394)	420	10	20	31	34	42	48

FT-SE INDEX (*2860½)

	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000
Calls						
Apr	126	91	55	30	13	7
May	149	113	80	57	37	23
Jun	164	130	102	76	55	39
Jul	180	150	120	93	72	54
Dec	-	225	-	170	-	125
Puts						
Apr	12	20	39	64	105	146
May	30	45	69	90	123	160
Jun	45	58	80	103	134	167
Jul	58	70	90	115	143	174
Dec	-	115	-	160	-	220

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	360	12	28	36	1	12	20
(*368½)	390	1	13	22	22	29	36
Amstrad	30	4	6	8	1	1½	3
(*34)	35	1	3½	5½	2	4½	5½
Barclays	390	27	42	52	1	12	23
(*414)	420	1½	25	35	8	24	37
Blue Circ	220	7½	16	25	2	15	23
(*226)	240	½	7½	16	16	31	36
Br Gas	280	17	21	26	1	8½	12
(*296)	300	1	10	15	5	20	23
	330	1	2½	6	35	45	46
Dixons	220	6	20	26	1	15	23
(*224½)	240	1	10	17	19	26	35
Eurotnnl	460	22	49	66	1	31	43
(*475)	500	1	29	47	35	55	66
Forte	180	19	23	27	1	8	13
(*198)	200	1½	11	16	3	20	25
Glaxo	600	2	39	62	7	39	51
(*596½)	650	1	19	42	60	73	80
	700	1	10	27	110	115	117
HSBC	600	9	36	55	2½	38	53
(*606½)	650	1	19	36	45	71	83
Hillsdwn	140	17	22	26	1	7	11
(*154½)	160	1	8	15	6	15	22
Lonrho	90	1½	9	11	2	7½	11
(*81)	90	½	5	8	11	13	17
Reuter	1350	15	78	113	3	60	87
(*1358½)	1400	2	54	92	48	89	117
R-Royce	120	7	12	17	1½	8	12
(*128)	130	1	8½	14	3½	14	18
Sears	90	12	13	16	1	3½	5½
(*99)	100	1½	7	10	1½	7	10
Thrn Emi	850	25	54	65	2	25	46
(*877½)	900	1½	30	40	40	54	77
TSB	160	12	20	24	1	7	12
(*171)	180	1	9½	14	11	18	22
Vaal Reefs	40	4	6	7½	1	3½	5
(*42)	45	1½	4½	5½	3½	5½	7
Wellcome	900	2	45	82	12	50	66
(*890)	950	[illegible]	13½	58	57	32	96

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Fisons	200	12	24	32	8½	21	29
(*201)	220	3	15	24	20	36	40

	Series	Calls May	Aug	Nov	Puts May	Aug	Nov
Eastrn Elc	460	34	44	50	8½	22	28
(*478½)	500	12	22	30	28	45	50

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	300	25	35	40	1	6	13
(*323½)	330	1	16	22	7	18	27
Scot Pwr	220	22	28	31	1	3½	9½
(*239½)	240	1	15	19	1½	10	19

March 24, 1993 Tot: 33366 Call: 21374 Put: 11992 FT-SE Call: 2897 Put: 1724
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Coffee was given a fillip following the publication of a letter from President Clinton to Cesar Gaviria, stating his commitment to a new coffee pact. However, the trade were uncertain whether the US delegation had been given a clear mandate to make concessions in the current round of negotiations, or whether it was a politically polite way of re-affirming the US adherence to the current tough stance.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	685-667	May	770-768
May	694-692	Jul	780 BID
Jul	705-704	Sep	795 BID
Sep	719-717	Dec	819 SLR
Dec	737-736		
Mar	757-755		Volume: 2196

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	935-915	Nov	891-888
May	895-894	Jan	901-899
Jul	868-866	Mar	911 SLR
Sep	878-676		Volume: 1591

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Dec	220.0-10.0
Spot 250.0		Mar	unq
May	257.0-55.0	May	228.0-24.0
Aug	267.0-65.0	Aug	unq
Oct	246.0-44.0		Volume: 13

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Renters		Dec	287.3-80.0
Spot 294.5		Mar	284.0-79.0
May	299.0-97.0	May	286.0-79.0
Aug	304.0-02.0	Aug	292.0-84.0
Oct	285.0-84.0		Volume: 1274

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 24

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	68.47	128.59	131.76
(+/-)	-2.81	+14.35	-1.14
Eng/Wales:	88.47	129.54	130.96
(+/-)	-2.91	+15.00	-1.66
(%)	-5.5	+25.4	-14.7
Scotland:	n/a	128.79	135.50
(+/-)	n/a	+11.58	-1.32
(%)	n/a	+37.5	-15.5

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Mar	unq	unq	Sep	106.0	106.0
May	unq	unq			Volume: 2

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

May	143.00
Jun	144.20
Sep	108.85
Nov	111.00
Jan	113.95
	Volume: 121

BARLEY (close £/t)

May	138.35
Sep	107.10
Nov	110.00
Jan	113.05
Mar	114.65
	Volume: 86

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Apr	147.50
Jun	140.50
Aug	141.30
Oct	145.00
Dec	unq
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	39.0	39.10
May	41.0	40.80
Apr	92.0	92.50
		Volume: 202

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Apr 62.75-63.25

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): A sharp drawdown in crude oil stocks, as recorded in Tuesday night's stats, sent prices higher.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.50	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.60	+0.30
Brent 15 day (May)	18.65	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.25	+0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	20.30	+0.30

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	199 (+2)	201 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	177 (n/c)	178 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	178 (n/c)	178 (-1)
Non EEC 1H May	173 (+1)	174 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	74 (n/c)	76 (n/c)
Naphtha	171 (+2)	173 (+3)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Apr	174.25-74.50	Jul	172.00-72.50
May	171.75-72.00	Aug	173.75-74.00
Jun	171.25-71.50	Sep	175.75-76.25
			Vol: 15185

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	18.65-18.67	Aug	18.71-18.74
Jun	18.70-18.73	Sep	18.73 SLR
Jul	18.70-18.72		Vol: 19963

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Apr	198.00-99.50	Jul	207.50 SLR
May	199.00-01.00	Aug	211.00 SLR
Jun	200.00-04.00		Vol: 354

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

Mar 93	High: 1500	Low: 1500	Close: 1498
Apr 93	1460	1450	1460
May 93	1415	1410	1414
Jul 93	1265	1259	1263

Vol: 247 lots. Open int'st: 2906 Index 1492 +7

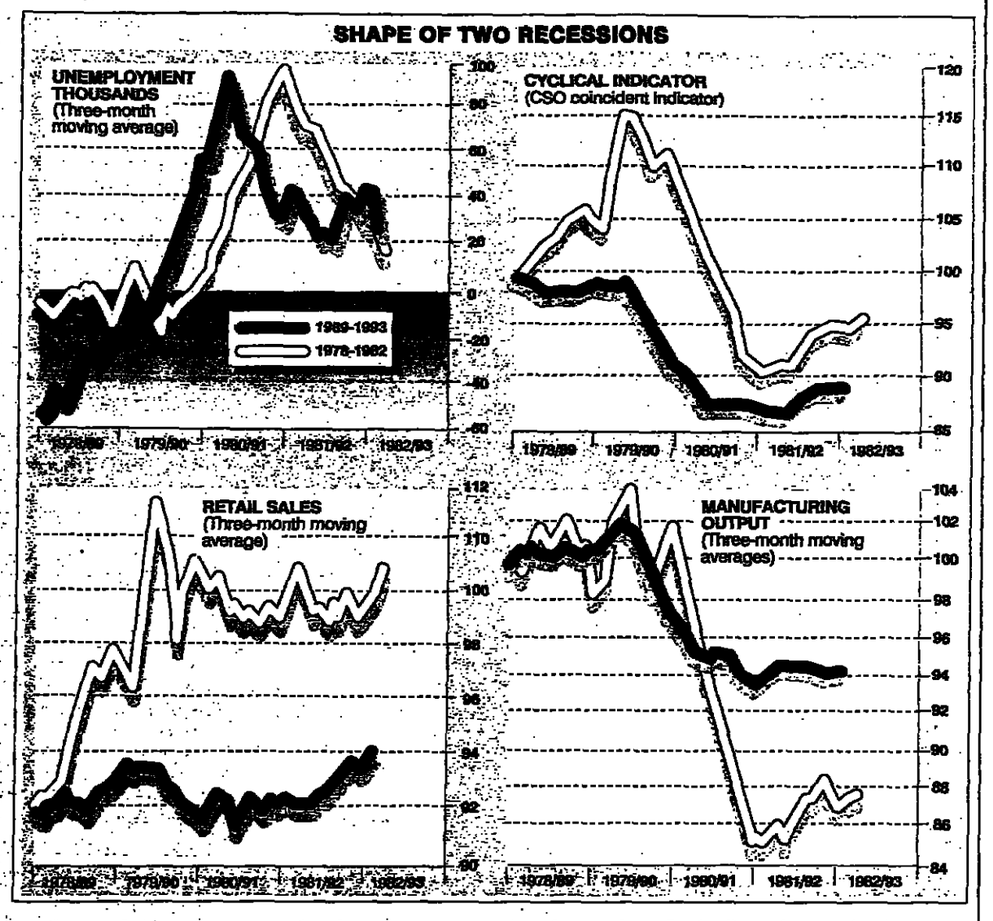
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1469.0-1469.5	1491.0-1491.5	682700
Lead (£/tonne)	266.00-267.00	276.00-277.00	90750
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	994.00-995.00	1014.0-1014.5	166675
Tin ($/tonne)	5720.0-5725.0	5780.0-5785.0	9035
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1150.5-1151.0	1173.5-1174.0	905600
Nickel ($/tonne)	6015.0-6020.0	6080.0-6082.0	44094

ECONOMIC VIEW

How to avert disaster by a timely look at the books

Anatole Kaletsky recommends that politicians should observe a time-honoured ritual in the pursuit of economic health



In the days before Britain became a one-party state, there was a ritual at the beginning of each new government called "Looking at the Books". About a week after winning a general election, the prime minister and his Chancellor would "look at the books" hidden away in the Treasury's innermost recesses. They would discover, to their horror, that the country's economic situation was far worse than the mendacious politicians who lost the election ever admitted. As a result, the new government regretfully had to suspend all its campaign promises to cut taxes, raise public spending and succour the needy. There was no alternative to hairshirts for everyone.

Of course, the books in question were entirely mythical. But the ritual of looking at the books helped to manage the economy and uphold the public's faith in democracy. Politicians were able to go back on pre-election promises without being branded liars. The voters did not feel they were constantly being swindled — at least not by their current leaders, since the blame for fraud automatically fell on whichever party was out of power.

If only John Major and Norman Lamont could have blamed Neil Kinnock for cooking the books before engaging last week's Budget — or, better still, before throwing away £5 billion of taxpayers' money on White Wednesday. Not only would Britain now have a strong and respected government with an impregnable majority. Britain would be a much more self-confident, and even more morally upright, place. Instead of ministers hiding behind their civil servants and civil servants dodging behind their ministers to avoid any responsibility for anything, Mr Major would proudly be claiming credit for pulling the country back from the brink.

The excellent employment figures published last Thursday, for example, would not be dismissed as an aberration, but hailed as the latest symbol of the triumphant new policy since White Wednesday. Businesses and consumers would be gearing up to take advantage of the new era of opportunity ushered in by the new policy.

Instead, the panic after White Wednesday almost aborted the slight improvement in output that began last summer (see chart). That in turn contributed to the wave of redundancies before Christmas.

The question now is whether last week's Budget will cause another setback in the post-ERM recovery. Although the post-recession convalescence has now clearly begun (see charts) there could well be a temporary relapse. For the Chancellor announced all kinds of painful measures to curb inflation and depress consumer spending but offered no corresponding promises to support output and demand if required. Business and consumer spirits are likely to be chilled as a result. But for the government another consideration was far more important: to acknowledge responsibility for economic recovery would mean admitting responsibility for the recession as well. With nobody but themselves to blame for the recession, that was a leap too far for John Major and Norman Lamont.

Now consider the situation in France after next weekend's election. The right-wing parties that come to power will, if they have any sense, enjoy a once in a lifetime opportunity to back away from their promises about the *franc fort*, with no loss of face and none of the damage to the credibility of government institutions suffered in Britain in the past six months.

Edouard Balladur, the likely new prime minister, could simply "look at the books" at the Bank of France. He could then issue a statement:

"The public was callously deceived by Michel Sapin and Pierre Bérégovoy. The foreign exchange reserves were all but exhausted in a rake's progress of fruitless currency intervention at the end of the last government. It would now appear that the only alternative to a franc realignment would be to borrow huge sums from the Bundesbank and the German government, a policy that no French patriot could commend to the nation. Fortunately, my government has found a better solution. Unlike Bérégovoy and Sapin, we have understood the true causes of the tensions in the ERM, which originated outside France although they were greatly abetted by the socialists' incompetence.

"We have prevailed on our friends in Bonn and Frankfurt to accept the primary responsibility for ERM tensions. They have agreed that any question of devaluing the franc is ruled out of order by the fundamental strength of the French economy. Indeed, since France enjoys the lowest inflation in Europe and a far stronger fiscal position than Germany, it would be natural for the franc to replace the German mark as the ERM's anchor currency, pending the speediest possible completion of a full monetary union between our two countries and the rest of the European Union.

"Accordingly, at an emergency meeting of the European Monetary Committee, Germany has sought permission for a temporary suspension of the mark from the ERM. The French government has decided to accede to this request from our hard-pressed neighbour, recognising that in a world of floating exchange-rates, a rising currency is a market penalty for lax fiscal policy and economic mismanagement, rather than a reward for fiscal prudence and economic rigour. We have thereby avoided any further discussion of franc realignment, saved the reserves of the Bank of France, and taken a further stride towards the goal of a federal European Union, enshrined in the Treaty of Maastricht.

"Parenthetically, the governor of the Bank of France has also informed me that, following the announcement of my government's rigorous new strategy for public expenditure control and privatisation, he has reviewed monetary conditions. In accordance with the BoF's new independent charter, which mandates that it must stabilise the monetary conditions of France, the BoF has decided to lower its intervention rate from 12 per cent to 6 per cent, with immediate effect."

Will M Balladur have the good sense to make such a statement in his first weeks in power? I have no idea. All I can say is that if he does, he will lose neither financial credibility nor political kudos. If he does not, he will suffer a succession of monetary crises and gradually see his government's power slip away to Frankfurt and Bonn. When he eventually tires of the humiliations and decides to devalue, it will be too late to blame the socialists. M Balladur will be discredited and left twisting in the wind — just like last spring's electoral hero, John Major.

TEMPUS

The asset test

AFTER a few preliminary salvoes, David Tweedie has now laid siege to the great bastion of the creative accounting fraternity — asset valuation. There is no other area in British accounting standards so rife with inconsistency and so open to abuse.

Two companies that bought identical buildings in 1960 have almost unlimited scope to use the investment gain to their best advantage. One, with high debts, can revalue the building annually to minimise gearing. The other, with falling earnings, can retain the building at historic cost and then sell it, channelling the considerable proceeds into the profit and loss account.

Given companies' self-interest in retaining the status quo, it is hardly surprising that the ASB has backed away from its principle of introducing a regime of current valuation. The potential cost of such a system could well have provoked a legal challenge to the ASB's authority. Even Mr Tweedie's attempt to approach the topic by stealth may be ambushed, so high are the stakes. At least he will receive whole-hearted support from chartered surveyors, who will need armies of new professionals to carry out the valuations.

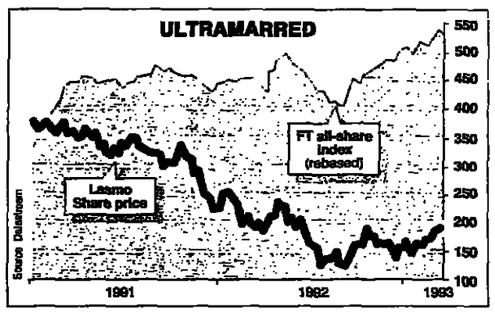
Shorn of revenue from asset disposals, the profit and loss accounts of many major companies would look decidedly sick. Some have a point that such disposals form an integral part of their business. If the ASB has its way, these will in future appear in the statement of gains and losses, and companies that want to win favour among investors should direct them there. At least readers of accounts will no longer need to hunt through the notes in a search for hidden wealth.

Lasmo

THE departure of Chris Greentree from Lasmo has given Joe Darby, his successor, an unrepeatable chance to clear out all the group's over-optimistic assumptions about its assets and the future oil price and start from a position where it can only move forward. Even the Budget worked in Mr Darby's favour. One wonders whether Lasmo would have been so zealous in its £124 million asset writedown had it not been allowed to write back £78 million in tax provisions.

Mr Darby must now reduce Lasmo's debts, which still stand at almost £1 billion despite last month's disposals. The sale of the group's interest in the Markham field for £50 million will be little more than a start, although a £200 million fall in development and exploration revenue should allow Lasmo to pay £100 million of debts from cash flow this year.

The group, however, needs fresh equity, and since the City is likely to spurn such a request, Lasmo may well look to Wall Street for help. The group may raise up to $150 million in perpetual preference shares later this year, with further and larger tranches in 1994. Lasmo's out-of-pocket shareholders may not think it deserves fresh funds, but the group needs capital to explore new territories such as Vietnam and Yemen. The only other obvious source of funds would be some of its Indonesian interests, but Mr Darby may not want to sell the jewel in the group's crown just yet.



Blenheim

LATEST figures from Blenheim Group, shorn of the benefits of Black Wednesday, brought up to date with the latest accounting conventions and then recast on an annualised basis, would have shown a fall in profits. This is a crude calculation to make, but it does indicate how Blenheim is less of a shooting star these days and more of a managed business, with inevitable fluctuations in trading.

Sixteen month pre-tax profits of £49.7 million would have been £11.7 million lower had ASB guidelines on goodwill writeoffs been followed, while the devaluation of sterling brought in an extra £4 million in the last four months; this compares with pre-tax profits of £28.3 million the preceding year. The pressure on operating margins shows Blenheim took its eye off the ball on pricing in Germany and America in 1992, while for its biggest European markets, recession still looms.

That said, the group is now well enough established for further growth without the sort of aggressive acquisition profile that would not be flattered by present accounting standards. The shares sell on a sensible 15 times this years' earnings. How times have changed.

Amec

WHILE Amec insists that 1992's disastrous results represent the bottom of its own profit cycle, 1993 may not be the bottom of the cycle for the contracting industry, which is lagging any pick-up in the rest of the economy.

The inherent risks and low margins of the large contracts in which Amec specialises do not give much cause for comfort. Management does not foresee any more exceptional items in 1993, but then it probably did not anticipate £115 million this time last year.

The group now has little room for manoeuvre. It has already been forced into a capital reorganisation to shore up distributable reserves to pay this year's dividend. Although Amec still has £240 million of shareholders' funds, only £20 million of distributable reserves remain, barely enough to cover the £16 million cost of a maintained dividend in 1993. If any of Amec's contracts were now to turn sour, even the reduced dividend would not look secure.

Geest

GEEST'S share price has almost doubled since the EC agreed to continue, but limit, the protection of imported bananas from African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. This protects Geest's traditional banana production in the Windward Islands but also vindicates its decision to invest £30 million in its own banana plantation and ships in Costa Rica.

Geest's management believes it can exploit its cheap new flow of dollar bananas to expand its European market share from 12 to 15 per cent by 1994. Speculation that Dole might bid for Geest has fuelled the share price.

Although 1994 holds promise, 1993 will be a transitional year as the Costa Rican operations start up. Elsewhere, the fall in fresh produce prices, which hit profits last year, has stabilised but is unlikely to regain all the ground it has lost. The shares, on a prospective p/e ratio of 19, are high enough.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

On course for business success

THE hunt for the next Anita Roddick or Sophie Mirman is under way — with a little help from Sir Allen Sheppard, chairman and chief executive of Grand Metropolitan, and a subtle push in the right direction from Yve Newbold, company secretary of Hanson. Sir Allen has agreed to help with the task of picking 20 women for a one-week "how to run your own business" course at the London Business School. GrandMet and the Royal Mail are providing the money and *Cosmopolitan* magazine will help find suitable candidates. One in three small businesses is started by women, three quarters of whom have no experience. "I'm so pleased about it," says Newbold, who is governor of the LBS and has been promoting the idea of the course for the past year. She is also set to team up with Sir Allen on another initiative called London First, a government-sponsored drive to promote the capital.

Imry irony

THINGS are looking up for Imry, the property group that metamorphosed into a subsidiary of Barclays Bank in December, after loan write-offs of £240 million. After two years of silence, the sound of footsteps last night thundered through the corridors of Rose Court, an office block built on the site of the Rose Theatre in southeast London. Rose Court has been empty since it was finished two years ago. Unable to attract tenants, Imry took a different tack — filling it for the evening with 100 schoolchildren who were in town for the National Schools Shakespearean Drama Awards, co-sponsored by PosTel Property Services. The evening included scenes from *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* — all appropriate in these troubled times. The Bard, who almost certainly trod the boards on that site between 1592 and 1594, would have appreciated the irony.



IT HAD to happen: an American bank has launched a credit card for pets. The Pet Lover's Visa card from the Massachusetts Company, a Boston bank, is engraved with the animal's name and offers discounts on pet supplies.

Fee Struggles

NORTHERN tempers have flared over the cost of finding a new chief executive for Manchester airport. Heidrick & Struggles, an executive search firm with offices in London, New York, Paris and Tokyo, is quoting a fee of £40,000 to find a suitable candidate for the £100,000 a year post — and local taxpayers will pick up the tab. Headhunting fees usually work out at about a third of one year's salary. Heidrick & Struggles says the complexity of a search has a bearing on the money involved. Gil Thompson, the present incumbent, retires in the autumn.

SIGN on an approach road to the small town of Tilpa in New South Wales: "This is a place where everyone knows whose cheque is good and whose husband is not."

Out of step

BURLY members of the Honourable Artillery Club's rugby team, hard in training for a visit to Jersey this Easter, have been puzzled by the absence of Malcolm Offord and David Allchurch, corporate financiers at Lazard Brothers and James Capel respectively. They have excused themselves from training sessions for the past few Mondays. Unfortunately for them, the pair were spotted at Battersea Town Hall — attending dance classes in Sirtc, a trendy type of French rock and roll. "We've not yet had the guts to tell the rest of the chaps," Offord says sheepishly, insisting that the ribbing he is about to receive has its consolations: "My new training partners are certainly much prettier."

JON ASHWORTH

LETTERS

Early signs of rising inflation

From the Reverend F. Steadman

Sir, The television news programme told us on Friday that inflation in February 1993 was up from 1.7 to 1.8 per cent. No mention of other figures.

On Saturday, your newspaper told us that underlying inflation was up from 3.2 to 3.4 per cent. It also told us that prices rose in February by 0.7 per cent. (It did not say that this is an annual rise of 8.4 per cent.) The February rise was said to be in part due to the end of January sales, but there must be more to it.

These are early signs that inflation has started rising following devaluation of the pound and lower interest rates. The signs will, alas, be swamped as always by the method of expressing inflation year on year; February 1993 figure is substituted for February 1992, a much lower one, and does not make much impression on 11 other lower ones.

However, it is almost certain that February's figures will be followed by similar ones in March, April, and so on until it will be clear that we are into high inflation again. The Chancellor will then have to increase interest rates by much more than he would like — or else. The time to act is now. A modest increase in interest rates now will moderate inflation already under way, and will not affect confidence as severely as large increases in the autumn when inflation will have gained a strong hold.

Will the Chancellor heed these early signs? I fear not. If not, remember that you first read about it in these pages.

Yours faithfully
F. STEADMAN,
(Formerly deputy chairman ICI Mond Division),
24 Glan Aber Park,
Chester,
Cheshire.

ABC way of getting together to tackle banks

From the chairman of the National Association of Bank Customers

Sir, Your recent correspondents — Messrs Wray (March 19), Bradley, and Collins (March 22) have all highlighted the continuing need for bank customers to seek advice and assistance in their dealings with financial institutions, and sometimes to seek protection from unfair and inequitable practices.

Unfortunately there is as yet no "official" bank arbiter with adequately wide powers, but we are a growing group of individuals and companies who have at some time or other had cause to object to the attitude of various financial institutions, and have therefore grouped together for mutual support and assistance.

We provide practical legal advice as part of our membership; and are increasingly able to provide an unofficial arbiter to intervene in disputes with institutions, and to inject some independent commercial common sense and reality.

We are the oldest, and (we think) the largest bank customer organisation, having recently agreed to form an association with one trade federation to provide blanket membership. Our professional approach seems to have borne fruit with banks in resolving a number of problems, and we can only advise individuals and companies to persevere with a practical approach — or to join, or form, an organisation such as ours so that arguments and objections can be provided from a sound basis of fact and statistics.

Yours faithfully
STUART CLIFFE,
Chairman,
National ABC,
Llantony Secunda Manor,
Caldicot, Gwent.

Lloyds sees no need for a new third-party banking pressure group

From Mr Mike Shaw

Sir, In the light of the letters from Mr Wray (March 18) and Mr Bradley (March 22) I feel prompted to write to clarify the situation.

Lloyds Bank is certainly not indifferent to small businesses, having made a massive investment in people and time to serve this market. We continue to help companies in difficulty and for every one firm that fails, we are supporting four others who are in difficulties through the recession.

As a bank we value our customers and our aim is to provide an outstanding service. We take complaints seriously and have made great efforts to improve our service through the introduction of service standards which are meaningful to our customers. But no-one can afford to be complacent and in recognition of this we have made improving our service our major priority.

We have a well established complaints procedure which customers can, and do, follow. This is clearly set out in "Our contract with our business customers" which was mailed to each of our 430,000 small business customers.

Furthermore, following the government's announcement earlier this year, small businesses are now covered by the Banking Ombudsman's scheme. But even under the old scheme 90 per cent of our small business customers already had recourse to the ombudsman. We can certainly see no need, nor value, in a new third-party pressure group as suggested by Mr Bradley.

Mr Wray asks "... is there anyone there who cares"? Yes — we do!

Yours faithfully,
MIKE SHAW,
Head of business services,
Lloyds Bank,
71 Lombard Street,
EC3.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE
BACHELOR'S . MASTER'S . DOCTORATE
For Academic and Work Experience
No Classroom Attendance Required
Of course, experience is still the best teacher - but degrees open doors. Send detailed resume on work, life and academic experience for a no cost evaluation. Or call: 0800-960-613.
Pacific Western University
600 N. Sepulveda Blvd.
Los Angeles, California
90049 - Dept. 185 - U.S.A.

YEARS IN FRONT
If it's peace of mind you're after, then with a 3-year/60,000 mile manufacturer's warranty, this has to be the car in front.
THE NEW CARINA E. FROM £10,399†
THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA
† INC. VAT BUT EXCLUSIVE OF DELIVERY CHARGE OF £370 (INC. VAT). NUMBER PLATES AND ROAD FUND LICENCE.

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 071 481 1066

ACCOUNTANCY & FINANCE

FAX:
071 481 9313

Two new demanding opportunities for commercially aware Qualified Accountants

starting salaries £27,681-£30,093, pay award pending + PRP

Dartford is a very progressive and forward looking local authority with strategic plans that take it well past local government reorganisation and into the next century.

Two new challenging posts for enthusiastic, ambitious, qualified accountants are seen as essential in contributing towards exciting new initiatives aimed at implementing the strategic plan.

Commercially aware, you are a good communicator with both management and staff alike as well as external contacts. A strong analytical and assessment ability is vital, as is your commitment to quality and efficiency.

Experience of the development of Business Plans, VAT and Tax and raising of external funds would be an advantage.

If we have described you, then please send your CV together with a covering letter describing how you believe you can make a positive contribution to the Finance team to: Jan Davis, Finance Directorate, Dartford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Home Gardens, Dartford DA1 1DR. Closing date April 8th.

DARTFORD
Borough Council

We are unable to acknowledge receipt of your application. If you wish an acknowledgement please enclose a stamped self addressed envelope with your CV.
The Council operates to a no smoking policy in all its buildings.

NATIONWIDE GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

£Excellent

Our client is one of the world's leading international accountancy practices, with regional offices throughout the UK. It is for these regional offices that we have been asked to assist in the recruitment of graduates for their September 1993 intake.

Specifically our client is recruiting individuals to train and specialise in corporate tax consultancy work, whilst being sponsored through Chartered Accountancy examinations.

This is a creative environment, requiring a keen, analytical mind and a strong interest in problem-solving and research work. These roles involve advising some of the worlds major multinational corporations, as well as smaller, growing businesses. Naturally, as you progress in this field, you will become increasingly involved in substantial tax planning projects.

Applications are invited from 1992 graduates, or individuals who have graduated within the past 2 years, looking to change their career path. A minimum 2.1 degree and grades A,B,B at 'A' level are essential.

Opportunities exist in BRISTOL, EAST MIDLANDS, ABERDEEN, NEWCASTLE, MANCHESTER, CARDIFF and THAMES VALLEY.

Alderwick Peachell & PARTNERS LIMITED

For further information contact BARRIE PALLEN on 071 404 3155 (office hours), facsimile 071 404 0140 or write, enclosing brief details to Alderwick Peachell and Partners Ltd, 125 High Holborn, London WC1V 6QA.

Accounts Manager
£20K
Experienced ACA, CIMA or ACCA qualified. Supervise busy Accounts Dept - 4 staff. Only apply if you're intelligent, happy and have a sense of humour!
Send your CV to
Richard Kershaw,
HHB Communications Ltd,
73-75 Scrubs Lane,
London, NW10 6QU.

SCANDINAVIAN EQUITY ANALYST
Essential requirements:
- Extensive knowledge of all Nordic Economics and Industries
- Fluency in Swedish, Norwegian and English
- Minimum 5 years work experience, preferably in an international industrial environment
- Well documented analytical and advisory skills

Attractive salary and benefits for successful applicant.
Please apply in writing, with full CV to: Box No 1461

Specialist furniture retailer Fulham based searching for Pegasus P.C. and Lotus 123 literature book keeper. Duties include PAYE and order processing. Write with C.V. to:
Box no. 1456

SENIOR PRACTICE APPOINTMENTS

Corporate Reconstruction Senior Manager — **London To £60,000 + Car**
Newly created high profile role in the corporate recovery department of a top accountancy firm. Working in a small specialist team the emphasis is on reconstruction and reorganisation projects for major organisations. The successful applicant will be a qualified ACA or Licensed Insolvency Practitioner aged 30-35. Corporate recovery experience is essential. Additional exposure to corporate finance and/or reorganisations would be advantageous. Excellent prospects for career advancement.

Computer Audit Manager — **London £35-50,000 + Car**
Exciting opportunity in a medium sized chartered practice to run a small team of computer audit specialists. Liaising with partners the role will require a high level of technical expertise, marketing to clients and internal departments, systems analysis and evaluation and running assignments. This appointment is likely to suit a large firm trained ACA, aged 27-33, with 3-6 years relevant post qualification experience. First class long term career prospects.

Insurance Tax Consultant — **London c£30,000 + Car**
Career opportunity entering the specialist insurance tax group of a top practice at Supervisor/AM level. The ideal applicant will be a newly or recently qualified ACA with a clean exam record, strong interpersonal skills and at least one year's experience dealing with the tax affairs of insurance and/or financial clients.

Corporate Recovery Assistant Manager — **London £28-30,000**
Medium sized firm seeks a recently qualified ACA with around 2 years post qualification experience gained in Corporate Recovery and Insolvency work. The role is likely to suit someone seeking a varied, hands-on role dealing with a wide range of Receivership, Investigation and Liquidation work.

For further information on these or other practice vacancies please contact Jeff Davies or Christopher Kidd in strict confidence on 071 353 4212 (days) or 081 979 8140/081 691 1648 (evenings & weekends). Alternatively write to them at Davies Kidd, Hamilton House, 1 Temple Avenue, Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HA. Fax No. 071 353 0612.

DAVIES ▶ KIDD

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
RECRUITMENT EXHIBITIONS
LATRO Marketing

NORTH EAST LONDON AND WEST LONDON
MONDAY 5th APRIL

CENTRAL LONDON
TUESDAY 6th APRIL

CROYDON AND NORTH WEST LONDON
WEDNESDAY 7th APRIL

Considering a career change? If so the one thing you need is information.

Our Recruitment Exhibitions offer you a unique opportunity to consider the benefits of a career as a Financial Advisor. You will meet Senior Managers from some of these leading Financial Services Companies and discover the training, support, career development and variety of income packages they provide.

Career opportunities exist for people, aged 23-63, from a wide range of backgrounds and experience.

To secure your free invitation please phone the Exhibition organiser on 0494 488088/488499 lines open to 7.00pm.

FINANCE DATABASE MANAGER — **c £20,000 NORTHANTS**
Challenging opportunity for a Part Qualified Accountant, possibly timebarred to join this progressive organisation.
You will be responsible for controlling and verifying the timing, integrity and consistency of data used in various reporting systems. A thorough understanding of databases, spreadsheets and mainframes is essential. In addition to the competitive salary, excellent benefits are offered. For further details please contact **Wendy Smith-Howes.**

TEMPORARY COMPANY ACCOUNTANT £20,000 NORTHAMPTON
Exceptional role for a Part Qualified or Qualified individual with a proven track record within the manufacturing industry. In this position with prospects of permanency you will be responsible for the accounting function of this £5 Million turnover company including, budgetary control, forecasts, monthly management and statutory accounts. An immediate start for this varied and challenging role. For further details please contact **Marion Johnson.**

FINANCIAL PLANNING ANALYST c£25,000 + Benefits SWINDON
Superb opportunity for highly self motivated Qualified Accountant eager to assume a demanding role within a major organisation. Key responsibilities include special projects co-ordination, corporate strategy initiation and profitability analysis. Computer literacy and spreadsheet modelling prowess is essential. For further details please contact **Angela Cross**

For further details please contact the relevant Consultant on **0604 28162** or write to

Johnson Underwood
Career Specialists in Accountancy and Finance

77A ST. GILES STREET, NORTHAMPTON, NN1 1JF

SYSTEMS AUDITORS

Start-up roles in a new and dynamic organisation

Circa £20-25,000 + benefits
Based North West or West Midlands

The Child Support Agency will become established in April 1993 and will be a unique organisation within the Department of Social Security, responsible for the delivery of a service to the public which has not been previously provided. It will develop a concept and methods of delivery both of which are entirely new. In financial year 1993/94 it will have a budget approaching £120m.

The Agency is now establishing an in-house team to provide an internal audit service. Working in an environment where 70% of the staff will be new and undertaking training, there will be significant challenges. Successful applicants for these positions will be responsible for auditing a wide range of CSA systems in a variety of operational environments and will provide advice and support during the implementation of new systems.

Reporting to the Head of Internal Audit applicants may be based either at Birkenhead in the North West or Dudley in the West Midlands and will undertake some travel to other centres. They will most likely be professionally qualified internal auditors or accountants with relevant systems based experience, although those in the process of qualifying or qualified by experience will be actively considered.

Relevant systems based audit experience together with an open and imaginative mind and an energetic approach to new challenges are considered vital.

For further details and to arrange an interview, please contact our consultant Conal Oldfield at Barclay Simpson Associates, Hamilton House, 1 Temple Avenue, Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HA.
Telephone 071 936 2601.

child support
Department of Social Security

THE DEPARTMENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Finance and Central Services
Cheam, Surrey — *Salary c£30,000*

The Civil Service Benevolent Fund is a Charity with over 220,000 members. We employ 600 staff and have an annual income in excess of £8M, deriving from membership contributions and from fees paid at our 10 Residential and Care Homes.

The creation of the new post of AD Finance provides an excellent opportunity for a CCAB qualified accountant to join our management team dealing with a challenging range of financial, fundraising, nursing care and casework issues. The Assistant Director will be responsible to the Fund's Director General for financial and administrative functions.

The successful candidate will have experience of working in a commercial environment, and a good knowledge of current charity and pension legislation would be an advantage. He or she will also have:-

* well-developed staff management skills
* familiarity with appropriate IT systems.
* excellent communication abilities.

For more details, please apply to Mrs. J. Posner, Civil Service Benevolent Fund, Fund House, Anne Boleyn's Walk, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, SM3 8DY. (Tel. No. 081-642 8511, ext. 145) The closing date for completed applications will be 14th April, 1993.

THE CIVIL SERVICE BENEVOLENT FUND

EUROPEAN OPERATIONS NEW TEAM

Berks based — **£ negotiable**

Our client is a major US manufacturing and distribution organisation with sales and marketing operations in 15 countries Europewide. Due to increased market share gained through acquisition and organic growth they now require a proactive team of young accountants to further develop European business.

The roles will be commercially orientated, dealing with sales, marketing, distribution and production issues, assessing risks and implementing solutions to increase efficiency and profitability. Based in the European HQ in Berkshire, you will report to the US and travel to the European operations according to demand. (Travel is not expected to exceed 50%)

The team will require a strong Manager, under 38 years, who will have gained exposure to Europe in a commercial environment. Applicants from a large practice with exceptional experience will also be considered. An Assistant Manager and three newly/recently qualified ACA's are expected to complete the team.

Candidates should possess considerable business acumen and analytical skills, together with conversational ability in one or more European language. Suitably qualified European nationals will also be of interest.

Salaries will be competitive and the company offers an attractive benefits package including bonus + car. Individuals are expected to be promoted to control an expanding business area within 18 mths to 2 yrs.

WARWICK MELLNOCK
SEARCH AND SELECTION
SUITE 2, EBC HOUSE, KEW ROAD,
RICHMOND, SURREY TW9 2NA
TELEPHONE: 081-940 4900 FACSIMILE 081-940 6524

All Box number replies should be addressed to:
BOX No:- ——
C/o Times Newspapers
P.O. BOX 484,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9DD

A leading American Investment Bank is seeking to employ European Fixed Income Trading and Sales professionals with a proven client base in the following areas:

- Non-dollar and dollar government securities
- Non-dollar and dollar eurobonds
- Asset and mortgage backed products

Minimum experience of 3-5 years with a large international financial institution is essential. European language useful but not essential.

Interested candidates should send their CVs to:

P.O. Box no. 1454

Assistant to the Accountant
St. James's
c£16,000

We are a highly successful & professional Human Resources Consultancy, recently awarded BS5750 Registration. This new position will provide the right person with an opportunity to develop or build on their skills and use their initiative.

Book-keeping to trial balance essential (ability to go beyond, an advantage), with experience of computerised accounting systems preferably Pegasus Series. Age 25+ must be flexible and team spirited with a high degree of integrity. Please apply in writing enclosing full CV to:

The Company Accountant,
CEPEC, 67 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6NY.

Applications should arrive no later than Mon 5th April. No Agencies

ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT
FINANCIAL SUPERVISION COMMISSION
SUPERVISOR - FINANCIAL SERVICES

As one of the world's leading international offshore centres, the Isle of Man is at the forefront of effective regulation of financial services provided in an offshore location.

Regulation is carried out by the Financial Supervision Commission, whichis responsible for the licensing, regulation and supervision of banks and building societies, collective investment schemes and investment businesses.

As part of its continuing development, the Commission is establishing a Financial Services Department and wishes to appoint someone of appropriate background and experience to lead it.

For this demanding and high profile role, the Commission is looking for someone of maturity with a proven track record in the financial services industry, who is able to manage and lead a team, and to deal and communicate effectively and confidently at local and international level.

The successful candidate will be directly accountable to the Commission's Chief Executive, and will be responsible for the development and maintenance of an effective system for the regulation and supervision of collective investment schemes and investment businesses and for the creation of a system of regulation of trustees and corporate administrators.

An attractive and competitive remuneration package will reflect the importance of this key position in financial regulation. Interested candidates should write in confidence, prior to 16 April 1993, enclosing a full CV, to:-

Chief Executive
Financial Supervision Commission
P O Box 58, 1-4 Goldie Terrace
Upper Church Street
Douglas, Isle of Man

BEAR, STEARNS

Bear, Stearns, a leading American Stockbroking and Investment Banking company based in Docklands, seeks to employ a trading assistant to join its Fixed Income desk. Graduate with degree in Business Studies, Economics, Mathematics, or related, required for this post. Computer literacy and prior work experience in financial institutions necessary. Ability to speak French useful.

Interested candidates should send their CVs to:

Katharine Wilder
Bear, Stearns International Ltd
One Canada Square
London E14 5AD.

GRADUATE TRAINEES

TRAIN IN TAX OR INSOLVENCY
£10-16,000 + STUDY NATIONWIDE

We are currently recruiting on behalf of a variety of Chartered Accountancy firms throughout the UK for recent graduates able to demonstrate a specific interest in pursuing a career in tax or insolvency.

Strict entry requirements include a minimum of 24 UCCA points (the equivalent of 3 B grades at 'A' Level) together with a minimum 2.1 degree, preferably gained in Law, Maths, Science or Business-related disciplines.

You will need to be articulate, professionally presented and well researched into your chosen career.

First class training programmes include full paid study leave towards the relevant professional qualifications (ACA, ATII or IPA), together with regular courses and seminars. Vacancies exist in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Leeds, Leicester, Manchester, Nottingham and Home Counties.

Interested applicants who meet the above requirements should contact DAVIES KIDD on 071 353 4212 or write to them at Davies Kidd, Hamilton House, 1 Temple Avenue, London EC4Y 0AH enclosing a full CV. Fax 071 353 0612.

DIARY OF TIMES CLASSIFIED

TELEPHONE:
071-481 4000

The Times Classified columns are read by well over a million of the most affluent people in the country. The following categories appear regularly and are generally accompanied by relevant editorial articles. Use the coupon (right), and find out how easy, fast and economical it is to advertise in The Times Classified.

THE WORLD FAMOUS PERSONAL COLUMN, INCLUDING RENTALS, APPEARS EVERY DAY.

MONDAY
Education: University Appointments, Prep & Public School Appointments, Educational Courses, Scholarships and Fellowships with editorial.
La Crème de la Crème: Secretarial Appointments.

TUESDAY
Legal Appointments: Solicitors, Commercial Lawyers, Legal Officers, Private & Public Practice with editorial.
Business to Business: Business opportunities.

WEDNESDAY
La Crème de la Crème: Secretarial Appointments
Property: Residential, Town & Country, Overseas, Rentals.
Commercial Property: with editorial.
Media, Sales & Marketing.

THURSDAY
General Appointments: Management, Engineering, Science & Technology, with editorial.
Accountancy & Finance.
La Crème de la Crème: Secretarial Appointments.
Public Management.

FRIDAY
International Appointments: Overseas Opportunities.
Motors: The complete car buyer's guide with editorial.

SATURDAY
WEEKEND TIMES
Shopsround: shopping from the comfort of your own home.
Saturday Rendezvous: The place to expand your social circle.
Property: Residential, Town & Country, Overseas, Rentals.
Gardenstag
Saleroom: Arts and Antiques (monthly).
SATURDAY REVIEW
Overseas Holidays

Fill in the coupon and attach it to your advertisement, written on a separate piece of paper, allowing 28 letters and spaces per line. Rates are: Lineage £5.50 per line (Min. 3 lines, only first word in bold); Boxed Display £30 per single column centimetre (Min. 3 centimetres); Court & Social £10 per line. Saturday Review Colour £38 per single column centimetre. All rates are subject to 17.5% VAT. Telephone our Classified Advertising Department on 071-481 4000 between 9am-6pm Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday, late evening 7.30pm on Thursday, or send to: The Classified Advertisement Manager, Times Newspapers Ltd., P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.

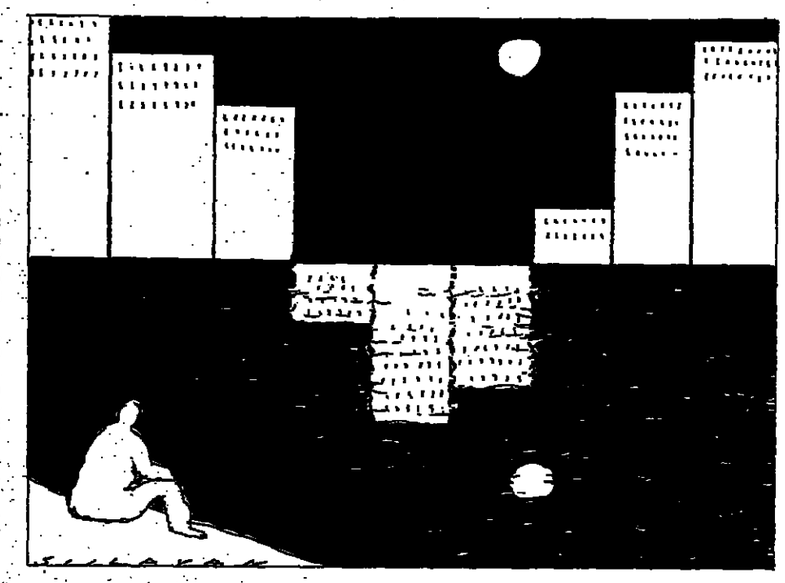
Name _____
Address _____
_____
Telephone (Daytime) _____
Date of insertion _____
(Please allow three working days prior to insertion date.)
USE YOUR CREDIT CARD — Expiry Date: - / /

هكذا من الأصل

ACCOUNTANCY

ASB braced for a storm over updating property valuations

Sarah Bagnall says industry is facing a stark choice over how it will make meaningful valuations for balance sheets



BRITISH businesses, especially property companies, will not be happy with the Accounting Standards Board's latest discussion paper, which offers industry a stark choice on the way forward for valuing assets on the balance sheet. The ASB does not expect its favoured option to be welcomed.

The proposals, outlined in a discussion paper, *The Role of Valuation in Financial Reporting*, deal with the revaluation of property, excluding fixed assets, quoted investments and commodity-like stock and long-term stock.

Reform is long overdue as David Tweedie, ASB chairman, says: "The current accounting system is illogical". It is a hybrid system involving valuing assets generally at historical costs but including current values on an irregular basis. Consequently, some assets appear at historical costs while others are at revalued amounts, including some that are out of date.

Users of accounts can therefore be confronted with fairly meaningless balance sheets, where the mix of valuations is chosen by management. The myriad different valuations can obscure a company's real asset strength and make accurate comparisons between companies impossible.

Mr Tweedie said there were three options: a return to pure historical cost accounting; a move to a full current value system; or to amend the current hybrid system to make current valuation more of a norm. The ASB plumps for the latter but this is likely to trigger a scathing attack because it might hit profits as well as affecting the balance sheet. This is because the ASB proposes that companies will have to revalue certain assets on a more consistent basis.

If the proposals are adopted, companies will not be able to dump into one year's profits a gain which has taken years to build up. For example, companies that dispose of assets which they have had for years, such as a land bank, can take the profit into current year profits. "The question is whether you can legitimately take into 1993 profits the profit from the sale of a land bank acquired in the 1930s," said Mr Tweedie.

Companies have also timed asset sales to boost profits. The sale of trade investments has been popular while some companies have been able to create profits by selling big property assets and repurchasing them later. Joint ventures and sale and leasebacks are other devices for a one-off profit when part may relate to the past.

The proposals will also clear distinctions between permanent and temporary diminution in asset values. Many companies are not recording sharp falls in investment property values, as opposed to trading properties, saying the drop is only temporary. Regular revaluations will put an end to this by requiring companies to show assets at current market value and taking a charge to the profit and loss account. This is a more accurate and meaningful approach, Mr Tweedie says, because creditors will be able to see asset values at today's prices. If a company collapses the current, not historic, value is relevant.

'Creditors will be able to see assets at today's prices. If a firm collapses, it is the current value that is relevant'

He knows this approach will not be welcomed with open arms by industry and recognises it is subjective. "But what we have got at the moment is unacceptable." The public has a choice, he added, "if you don't like regular revaluations then we can go back to pure historical cost accounting but when the problems of historical cost accounting come home to roost don't blame the ASB."

The ASB's proposals are based on Chapter 5 of its draft *Statement of Principles* "*Measurement in financial statements*", also published today. The principles laid out in Chapter 5 are the "ideal", said Mr Tweedie. "It is where we think accounting should go. But we are not saying do it because people are not ready to come here yet. It is untried, untested and there isn't the demand for it," he added.

The ASB proposals on valuation takes accounting only part of the way towards this ideal. If the ASB's strategy is accepted, interested parties have until June 30 to respond, then the ASB will seek advice from professional bodies on whether the proposals should apply to only the largest companies and whether revaluations should be undertaken solely by internal valuers, by internal valuers with an external review, or solely by external valuers.

Revenue has a nudge from the Chancellor

ABOUT a month before the Budget this year Price Waterhouse produced a very useful publication. Called *Modern Budgets 1945 — 1992*, it provided a guide to what had been said, what had been promised, and what, with hindsight, just looked plain daft, in each of the post-war Budgets. From this booklet, you could learn such fascinating facts as that in 18 of those years the duty on alcohol had risen and that in only three had it fallen. Or that in 1945 the income tax rate was 50p in the pound and that the single person's allowance was £80.

What the book does not tell you, and for very good reason, is how many times Chancellors of the Exchequer have decided to devote a portion of their speech to the subject of audit. The reason for that is simple. Budget speeches are supposed to rivet and persuade the nation's voters and taxpayers rather than send them to sleep.

This year, in admittedly a very long speech delivered in lacklustre style, there was suddenly a section about audit. This was, to say the least, unusual. But as in all the best mysteries the clue to the solution is the old business of the dog which didn't bark. This is what Mr Lamont said. "At present all incorporated businesses must have their accounts audited. While it is clearly important that accounts should be reliable and indeed, that the Inland Revenue and other users should have the assurance they need that the accounts have been drawn up properly, the current statutory audit requirement imposes a disproportionate cost on smaller businesses. My Rt Hon friend, the President of the Board of Trade, will therefore shortly be issuing a consultative document setting out options for reducing this burden, at least for the very smallest incorporated businesses. This would deliver significant savings and would represent a major step in cutting out red tape." Now there is absolutely nothing new in any of that. We all know the document is on its way. We all know it is but a tiny measure. Even after Mr Lamont's change to the VAT threshold we are talking here of companies which have a turnover ceiling of £37,600. Even a relatively homemade company such as John Birt Enterprises could swallow four of them in terms of size.



ROBERT BRUCE

The significance of its appearance in the Budget speech is political. First, publicising a few deregulatory measures helps the efforts to convince small businesses that the government is doing something for them, however small. Second, and much more important, is the significance in Whitehall. It effectively fires a very visible and noisy broadside across the bows of the Inland Revenue. The taxmen have always feared what might happen if the legal reason for small companies to have an audit was removed. Partly this is because taxmen are, by nature, training and through environmental conditioning, at best wary and at worst paranoid.

Without legislation pinning down all these crafty small business people they fear there will be no certainty in the figures they have to rely on. They, of course, forget that pressures from within small businesses to produce reliable figures will still remain. The businesses will still need loans, banks will still need reliable and independently certified information. The sort of "compilation report" which has been suggested as an alternative to an audit would suit them fine.

The Inland Revenue is not, however, a body given to embracing reform or change. It is not in its nature. So in the end even the Chancellor of the Exchequer has to be roped in to the campaign to give the tax authorities a bit of a shove.

Another rather more analytical piece of persuasion has also just been produced. This is the English ICA's publication of the responses it has received from within the profession and the financial community to the consultative paper on the topic that its financial reporting and auditing group produced last year.

These responses reveal that even the banks now favour getting rid of the need for a statutory audit of the very smallest companies, provided an independent compilation report is available. There are three issues to be resolved. The scope of any alternative report, the size at which companies could opt out, and the views, in particular of small audit firms, which could feel that their livelihood is under threat.

The responses show that 50 per cent favoured a straightforward independent compilation report with many fewer in favour of something tougher. They also show that a majority want at least companies within the VAT turnover threshold to be able to opt out of audit. But a substantial number felt that the VAT cash accounting threshold, which was then £300,000 but which the Budget raised to £350,000, should be the yardstick.

Perhaps most surprising of all was that 79 per cent of sole practitioners were in favour of some form of relaxation of the rules. Within that, moreover, some 57 per cent wanted complete exemption for small companies. Firms with between two and five partners were 64 per cent in favour of some sort of relaxation, of which 61 per cent wanted total exemption.

This does not suggest that the widely held view that small practitioners would be against getting rid of the small audit because it would somehow lose them business is correct. If anything it should, by freeing them to concentrate on more useful client work, increase business.

The Institute has now sent its report and its file of back-up responses to the Department of Trade and Industry. If the DTI has any sense, it should roll the documentation up and, after seeking out the appropriate Inland Revenue official, bash him over the head with it.

● *The author is associate editor of* Accountancy Age

Total separation is needed as the only way to guarantee independence of auditors

BY PETER LAYHE

In a most genteel manner, eyebrows have been firmly hoisted on a good many faces in the accountancy profession.

The future development of auditing has been placed under close scrutiny by responses made to the Auditing Practices Board paper (also called the McFarlane Report). Given the unease on the status and perception of external auditing, the APB is to be congratulated upon opening up the debate.

The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants has come out with clear recommendations. CIMA represents 33,000 qualified management accountants, many part of management teams of commercial and industrial businesses — they are more likely to be engaging auditors than practising audit work.

CIMA believes nothing short of separation of auditors from the rest of the accounting community will satisfy the perception of independence required by shareholders and those who own and run businesses.

Some outside observers have reached similar conclusions and also believe that the Chinese walls separating audit and the provision of the generally more lucrative consultancy services are of little protection to the shareholder and represent a substantial impediment to the overt recognition of auditor independence and impartiality.

This is essentially a debate over the auditing of big companies. We would expect most smaller companies to fall outside the scope of any future system for the regulation of external auditing.

When it comes to auditing listed companies and other businesses in the public eye, CIMA shares the concern of the APB that there is an expectation gap between what the public, shareholders, and other interested parties believe auditors should do and what they actually do.

CIMA wants to see the establishment of an audit commission to take over the functions of the existing regulatory machinery. Its responsibilities would include: the Auditing Practices Board, those parts of the accountancy bodies which currently regulate and register auditors, the appropriate sections of the Chartered Accountants and the ACCA ethics committees, and finally, the profession's joint disciplinary scheme in respect of auditors. CIMA has put forward these external audit ground rules:

- ☐ It must remain a financial profession.
- ☐ It must be divorced from the rest of the accountancy profession and independently regulated.
- ☐ It should not expand its involvement beyond reporting on financial performance controls, and financial aspects of corporate governance.



Clear recommendations: Peter Layhe of CIMA

The case for separating the auditor function is overwhelming. Too many financial scandals of international proportions have occurred in recent years in businesses which have been able to brandish a clean audit report.

The accountancy profession must act, both for its own good name and in self-defence to protect itself from the future prospect of ruinous lawsuits against auditors. That threat is already becoming a grim reality in the United States.

CIMA believes a change in the law is needed to support auditors where significant irregularities have been found or where there are grounds for suspicion. At the end of the day, auditors placed in such a position should be entitled to report their concerns to regulatory authorities with some degree of protection from legal action.

CIMA's wish to separate auditing should be seen in conjunction with the institute's strong belief that in all big companies there should be a very highly developed system of internal controls which has been set up by the management. Internal controls should be the first line of defence for a company rather than placing reliance upon outside auditors.

CIMA is campaigning on the importance of having a strong and independent audit committee drawn from the non-executive directors of the company. An audit committee's job is to make sure the company's internal control systems are adequate, secure, and safe.

To formalise the work of the audit committee, its chairman should be required to report to the annual meeting and in writing in the annual report. If all stakeholders in the company are to sleep more soundly at nights this is not work that can be left to outside auditors.

The author is chairman of the law and parliamentary committee of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

All change for audit partners

A REGULAR compulsory change in the partner of a firm who audits each client came a step nearer this week. After responses to an earlier consultation document, the chartered accountants joint ethics committee issued a policy "white paper" that would impose rotation of the engagement partner at least once every seven years.

An audit partner will also have to go through a quarantine period of five years after being rotated out of one audit before taking it on again. This proposed quarantine period has been extended from the two to three years mooted in the earlier consulation paper.

After final consultation, the proposals will go to the three national chartered accountancy institutes for approval. Little further change is expected, not least because the CAJEC policy meets recommendations of the Cadbury committee on corporate governance.

The new guidance will be compulsory for audits of listed and other public interest companies but will stay as a recommendation only for small companies. The new rules would be phased in over two to three years to avoid a confusing merry-go-round with hundreds of audit partners swapping places at once.

ACCOUNTANCY LETTERS

Insurers' novel arguments do not constitute precedent

From the chairman of the practice insurance requirements committee of the ICAEW

Sir, I refer to the article entitled "Indemnity insurance fails to protect clients against fraud" (March 11).

It is important to bear in mind that the arguments advanced by the insurers in the cited case are novel and that, in the absence of any prior English authority or formal judgment, they do not constitute any form of precedent. The particular circumstances of this case do, however, give rise to important considerations in terms of the institute's madatory scheme which will be considered, in detail, at my committee's next meeting. The insurers' argument was founded, in part, upon an answer to a question in the proposal form being false and the truth of that answer being warranted, on behalf of the partnership, to be true. This argument, although not casting doubt upon the adequacy of the institute's minimum policy wording, does serve to negate the effect of the special institute condition concerning innocent non-disclosure; quite clearly, it is unacceptable that innocent partners and clients should thereby be rendered unprotected in such circumstances.

The separate issue of a general indemnity fund was given prominence by the Law Society's recent consultative paper *The Cost of Default*. In common with Scottish and Irish institutes, this institute maintains a scheme to compensate clients for losses arising from investment business in cases where all other forms of redress, specifically professional indemnity cover, solvency bonds and partnerships' assets, have been exhausted. It has not previously been considered necessary to establish a parallel scheme to discharge any civil liability incurred by firms not otherwise met, largely because accountants, in the course of their normal professional services, do not handle comparable amounts of general client monies. I should point out that last year the institute implemented mandatory regulations governing the management of non-investment business clients' monies, compliance with which is checked as part of the joint monitoring unit's programme of visits to firms.

Yours faithfully,
EMILE WOOLF,
Chartered Accountants' Hall,
Moorgate Place, EC2.

Sense of vision needed for insolvency work

From Mr T.C. Carter

Sir, Much has been written about insolvency law and practice, some of it, in my opinion, ill informed.

However, in Roger Gregory's article (*Accountancy* Times, March 4), two sentences stand out:

"Rescue culture is primarily a state of mind not a section of the Insolvency Act" and "The much criticised legislation facilitates, rather than stifles, the solution".

I fear that too many of those who undertake work as insolvency practitioners lack the vision to work for restructuring of business.

In essence, they follow grandfather's advice and find the easy way out for them. Their state of mind has not moved forward to a rescue culture.

On a personal level, I know that rescues are possible, even relisting of Stock Exchange suspended companies. However, my experience indicates that my task would be easier if I could ensure that:

1) Creditors' ability to "score points" at the expense of the business were limited. The Insolvency Act has limited the ability of the utilities to "score points". Could the same rules be extended to all suppliers such that continuity of supply be obtained while a business strategy was determined through a Company Voluntary Arrangement or similar?

2) The task of rescue would be easier if it were possible for administrative receivers to bring forward Company Voluntary Arrangements in their own name rather than having to act through the directors. A change in the Insolvency Act would be required to make this possible.

While some complain about the Insolvency Act, which does have its quirks, I consider it is usable and, with thought, it works for most matters.

Furthermore, I do commend the combination of Administration (if need be) and Company Voluntary Arrangements or Schemes of Arrangement for companies and they do not have to be excessively expensive.

Yours faithfully,
T.C. CARTER
Insolvency Practitioner,
12, Harvey Road,
Guildford,
Surrey.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ACCA goes back again

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA) is back in South Africa after an exile lasting 40 years. David Bishop, ACCA president, joined Anthea Rose, deputy chief executive, on the first high-profile mission to the republic since the 1950s. "Times are changing," says Bishop, a senior partner of KPMG Peat Marwick, who packed in up to seven meetings a day with a range of financial dignitaries from Derek Keys, minister of finance, down. ACCA has appointed an official representative in South Africa and hopes to make some inroads in a society that is dominated by chartered accountants.

Topical tips

TIPS on minimising your risk as a company director are on hand at an informal seminar that is being in London today and which is organised by AIG Europe, the insurer, Touche Ross, and Cameron Markby Hewitt, the City law firm. Legal, accounting and insurance matters are on the agenda together with some advice on avoiding potential lawsuits or disciplinary action. The seminar starts at 4.30pm. Details from Tricia Waygood on (071) 936 3000.

Age trap

CHARTERED accountants who have been out of work for a year or more are most likely to be aged in their forties or fifties and male. The age hurdle has been exacerbated by the recession, according to a review in the latest issue of *Accountancy*, the English institute's monthly journal, which estimates that between 600 and 700 ICA members have been out of work for more than a year. Anyone who has been unemployed for more than nine months will find many doors closed, but there is the case of one lucky accountant who has just been offered a permanent job after two and a half years on the sidelines. He is somewhat unlikely to turn it down.

Green giant

The truth is out... Ernst & Young's London offices produce 10 tonnes of waste a week — enough to fill a double decker bus. In a fit of "green" enthusiasm, the firm commissioned an audit which found that 50 per cent of the waste is recyclable. Now, after changes in purchasing policy and the increased recycling of paper, cans and other materials, the firm can now recycle 22 per cent of the waste produced. The project has been running for 18 months so far and saved £15,000 in the first year.

Great Scott

SCOTT Barnes, corporate recovery partner at Grant Thornton, never expected to find himself acting as a dating agency but his role as administrative receiver to The Galleria shopping centre on the A1 at Hatfield, Hertfordshire, has been making a Cupid of him. While Barnes continues in his search to find a buyer for the centre, in administrative receivership since October, local pensioners have been flocking to the Wednesday afternoon tea dances held at the centre which have become something of a cult hit.

Shrink fever

THE United Kingdom phenomenon of the "shrinking" profession — remember the *Big Eight?* — has its parallels across the pond, it seems. Of America's 25 largest firms of accountants in 1973, only 10 are still going in 1993, according to *Bowman's Accounting Report*, an American newsletter. American number-crunchers who talk about the Six Pack are wondering if the United States is heading for the Final Four.

Coopers' hat-trick

N M ROTHSCHILD topped the league of investment banks for international privatisation assignments last year, beating C S First Boston by only one place. Goldman Sachs was third, followed by Samuel Montagu and Morgan Grenfell, according to a league table by *Privatisation International*, the newsletter based in London. Among accountants, Coopers & Lybrand was top for the third year running, followed by KPMG, Arthur Andersen, Price Waterhouse and Ernst & Young.

JON ASHWORTH

هكذا من الأصل

TRAVEL NEWS

Golden chance to refresh the spirit

Flocks of visitors will be taking religious holidays or making pilgrimages abroad this Easter. Harvey Elliott reports

As tour operators, travel agents and airlines prepare for the traditional Easter getaway, dozens of church groups are planning to spend the festival in the Holy Land or follow in the footsteps of St Paul in Turkey or Greece.

After a dramatic drop in the number of visitors to Israel between 1987 and 1991 following the Palestinian uprising and the Gulf war, visitors, especially those anxious to experience the real meaning of Easter, have begun to return in record numbers.

So great has been the renewed interest in religious visits and pilgrimages that a conference, organised by Living Stones, the ecumenical trust, was held in London last week to explain to the growing number of would-be pilgrims what is involved and how to go about organising their trip.

Although about 1.75 million people visited Israel last year, only an estimated 20 per cent of these had religious reasons for travelling. The Commission for Christian Pilgrimages gave the number of British Catholic pilgrims to the Holy Land as 1,387 in 51 separate groups in 1991, although around 20,000 Christians of all denominations will visit this year.

The recession has had comparatively little effect on the numbers, as most visitors are so determined to make the trip that they save up for years. Prices charged by the handful of specialist tour operators who arrange the visits are up to 10 per cent higher this year than last because of surcharges imposed as a result of the fall in the value of the dollar. There is also a growing shortage of accommodation as the number of pilgrims from the former Soviet Union rises sharply.

"This may mark a return to a phenomenon of the early years of the century when up to 15,000 Russian pilgrims visited Jerusalem annually, taking in both Christmas and Easter," said Bill Hayton, administrator of Living Stones (081-744 9078). Although many pilgrims stay in church hostels and some in people's houses, most now go to the many modern hotels outside the Old City.

Tourist are also becoming interested in Turkey and Greece, and the chance to follow the route taken by St Paul. Some visitors, however, have complained that they are often herded up one mountain after another simply to look at yet another ruined church.

"We want to avoid the situation where visitors spend most of their pilgrimage on buses being whisked between sites without understanding the significance of the place," Mr Hayton said.

The Rev David Praill, who works at the St Luke's Hospice in Harrow and specialises in religious travel arrangements, said: "There is a definite growth in interest in holidays that provide time for spiritual reflection. But the problem of accommodation is now becoming serious in many of the most popular areas such as Assisi, Rome, and Jerusalem."

He urged visitors to Jerusalem to contact the Pilgrim Information Office on arrival which provides details of the hundreds of services held over Easter and which churches can take worshippers.

Michael Hodgson of Maranatha Tours (081-959 5303), which specialises in organising groups on religious tours, says that it is essential to travel with like-minded groups.

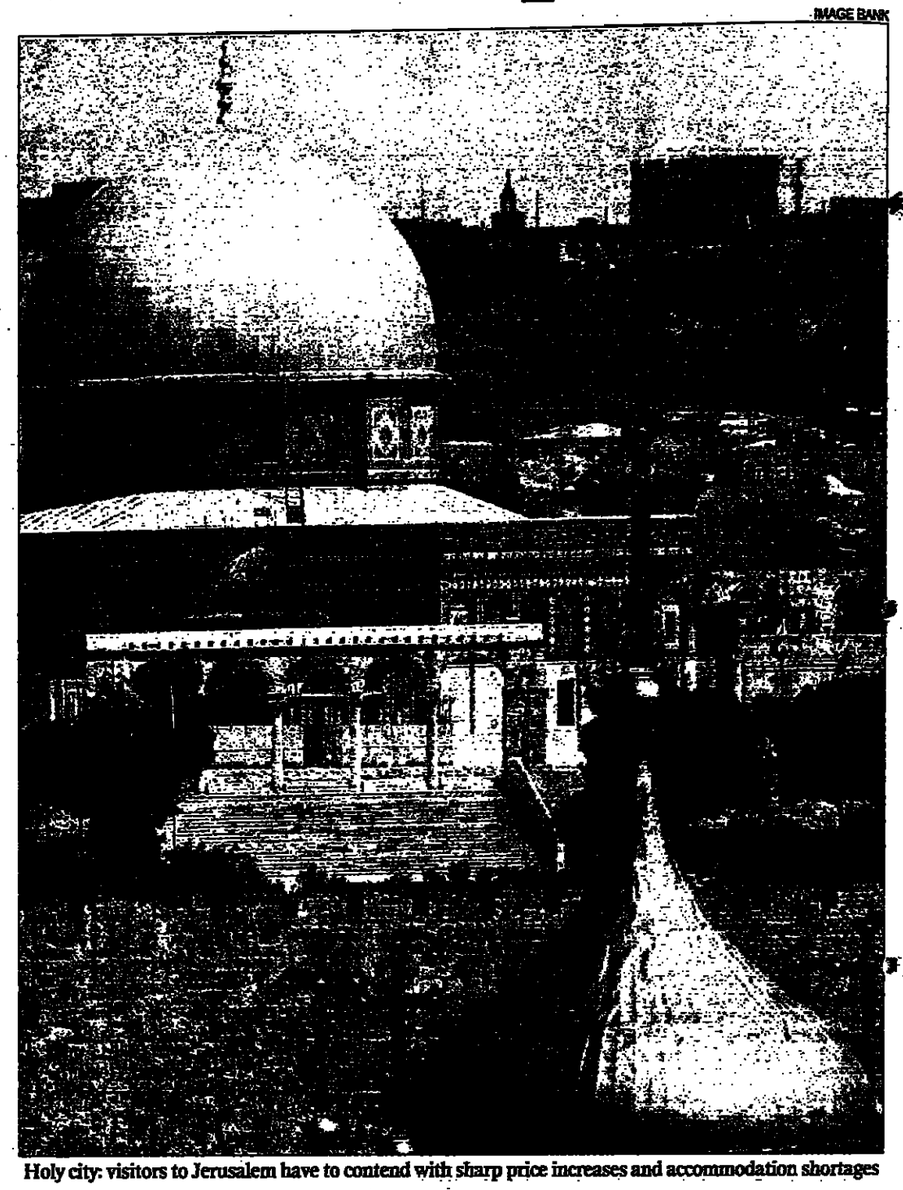
"A religious tour can prove a minefield of problems unless you are with the right group. The terminology is very different for Catholic, Baptist, Anglican or Pentecostal Christians, and if a group is to stay together for a week or more it is essential that the leader of the group is of the same denomination. People have childhood images and are looking for confirmation of their ideas of the Holy places or a further understanding of the Bible lands," he said.

A ten-day tour of the Holy Land staying in medium grade hotels over Easter costs about £750 per person and about £850 for a tour of Turkey and Greece.

Andy Webster of McCabe Travel (081-675 6828) has six groups leaving for Israel over Easter, many of whom will celebrate their own mass or eucharist in churches which have been booked in advance.

One popular tour this year leaves on April 6 and includes accommodation in St Andrew's Hospice in Jerusalem, escorted visits to all of the most important Biblical sites and the chance to join the congregation of St Andrew's Church on Easter morning. The ten-day trip costs £660 per person. Religious tours are also organised by InterChurch Travel (freephone 0800 300 444).

Easter breaks in the Costa Del Sol are also growing in popularity, thanks to the good weather and the processions and passion plays which take place in most villages and which have changed little since the 14th century.


IMAGE BANK

Holy city: visitors to Jerusalem have to contend with sharp price increases and accommodation shortages

SECULAR PACKAGES AT EASTER

BRITAIN

■ Easter can be a particularly lonely time for single people and Acorn Activities (0432 357335) has a three-night break for £200 exclusively to cater for them. Based in a specially built centre in the Wye Valley four miles south of Hereford, the full-board breaks include evening entertainment, barbecues and the choice of abseiling, caving, canoeing, rafting, orienteering and rock climbing.

■ The Copthorne Hotel in Newcastle (091-222 0333) has two inter-connecting rooms suitable for two adults and two children for two nights with admission to a local leisure attraction and a children's fun pack plus gift egg and video show for £184.

■ Forte Hotels (0345 404040) is offering four-night breaks for the price of three at 19 hotels across the country over Easter, with prices starting at £35 per person including three-course dinner and full breakfast.

■ The Holiday Inn in Mayfair, London (071-493 8282) is charging £99 per night for a double room including breakfast and either lunch or dinner with complimentary wine and Easter eggs.

■ The Hotel Nelson in Norwich (0603 760260) is including a cruise from the hotel quay on the river Wensum and spring flowers to take home in its £170 half-board five-night Easter break.

■ Goldenrail (0904 638973) has a range of self drive and rail-inclusive resort and city Easter breaks throughout Britain from £79 for three nights half board.

OVERSEAS

■ Keycamp Holidays (081-395 4000) are offering a ten-night holiday at Camping La Baume near Fréjus on the Cote d'Azur for £219 per family of four including ferry and tented accommodation.

■ The Seychelles offers guaranteed sunshine over Easter, and Tropical Places (0342 825123) can provide 13 nights' bed and breakfast at a three-star hotel and return flights from Gatwick on March 27 for £775 per person.


Big is beautiful: the extraordinary Luxor hotel and entertainment centre dominates the Las Vegas skyline

Las Vegas goes for the jackpot

The city famed for its glitz and gambling has discovered families

The image of Las Vegas as a gambling-only city is about to change. Several of the city's leading casino operators are building Disney-style theme parks — aimed at attracting whole families.

The city's tourist chiefs have realised that by adding entertainment centres more familiar to southern California and Florida, they could attract even bigger numbers of visitors to the Nevada Desert each year.

Of all the developments, the most spectacular is the $1 billion complex being built by the MGM Grand Group. When it opens next spring, it will include a 5,000-room hotel — believed to be the world's biggest, and will also have a vast casino and entertainment centre, based on the Wizard of Oz theme.

Even by American standards, the complex is huge. Within the 112-acre site, there will be a yellow brick road and crystal spires. There will also be state-of-the-art roller coasters, a rapid rivers type ride and several swimming pools. A novel idea is a "youth hotel", where children will be able to enjoy a range of activities for the young, while their parents gamble in the adjoining casino.

The main hotel is on an unprecedented scale. Of the 5,000 bedrooms, 744 will be luxury suites. There will be 93 elevators and 100,000 sq ft of marble. Larry Woolf, the MGM Grand president, jokingly says the company wants to attract what he calls the Addicts — the adrenalin-driven dual income couples who feel guilty about leaving their children at home.

Several other substantial developments are under way. These include the "Treasure Island" complex run by Mirage Resorts. Although smaller than the Grand, this hotel will have 3,000 bedrooms, 4,500 staff and a range of activities associated with the book of the same name.

However, the most extraordinary of the new complexes is a pyramid-shaped hotel and entertainment centre to be called Luxor. The backer, Circus Circus Enterprises, already operates the city's Excalibur Casino, but it is so confident of the city's growing tourism potential that it is investing $350 million (£240 million) in the new complex.

When it opens in October, it will simulate an archaeological dig and highlight three Egyptian themed cities, representing the past, the present, and future. Within the 30-storey pyramid, there will be a casino, a 2,500-room hotel, as well as replicas of a vast range of Egyptian artefacts, including a full scale reproduction of King Tutankhamun's tomb.

The other big development under way is a 1,000-foot Stratosphere Tower, which will include an amusement ride, observation deck, revolving restaurant, and, being Las Vegas, a wedding chapel. Beneath the tower, when the complex opens next summer, will either be a tiger habitat or a giant under-water shark tank.

The developers of the complexes are confident that Las Vegas can become America's tourism capital by combining Disney-style family attractions with the 24-hours-a-day gambling centres which the city already boasts.

However, the one element which prevents Las Vegas from becoming the ultimate tourist resort is a lack of golden beaches — although there is probably some American entrepreneur already working on that.

ALAN JABEZ

British Midland pledges fare cuts of up to 40 per cent

Price war in the sky

British Midland, Britain's second biggest scheduled airline, is poised to take on protected state-owned continental carriers by flying on some of the busiest — and most expensive — intra-European routes. This could lead to fare cuts of up to 40 per cent.

British Midland wants to be the first airline to take full advantage of new "open skies" legislation. Detailed plans for the airline to have aircraft based on the Continent and operating between cities such as Paris, Rome, Frankfurt and Madrid have already been drafted, and the airline hopes for take-off early next year.

For all non-British routes, British Midland would adopt a new name to provide a European-wide image. The new operation, based on three main centres which the airline is keeping secret to prevent competitors from spiking its guns, should be set up next year.

The proposed operation is being firmly backed by the British government, which is also anxious to force the European Community to prevent other governments from supporting their national airlines with state aid. The UK government is already preparing its objections to proposals by the Irish government to pump extra cash into Aer Lingus.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, said this week that for too long international aviation had been dominated by a "closely controlled carve up of air services between national flag carriers".

"Governments should no longer be giving their national flag carriers favoured treatment, protecting them even from competition from other domestic airlines," he said.


Lower fares: Sir Michael

An example of how high fares can be within Europe is the £558 unrestricted return business fare on the 248-mile journey between Paris and Amsterdam. This compares with £270 return charged by British Midland between Heathrow and Paris — a distance of 215 miles.

Mr MacGregor said: "Once an airline has got its EC operating licence, it is free to fly on virtually any route within the Community. Airlines are free to set their fares according to their own commercial judgment, rather than have them determined by a regulator." It is this new rule which British Midland plans to exploit.

Aircraft in British Airways' livery already fly from Paris to a number of European destinations, but this follows an investment by BA in the French carrier, TAT, and fares on the routes are identical to those charged by Air France.

British Midland will be operating on its own and its main objective will be sharply to reduce fares. It claims an enormous success with the launch of its Diamond EuroClass, which offers savings of up to 40 per cent against competing airlines operating out of Heathrow.

The plan now is to extend that policy into the heartland of Europe. Already KLM and Aer Lingus have responded to the British Midland challenge by reducing business class fares from Heathrow to Dublin and Amsterdam.

"Battle has been joined in a price war which means that Europe's air travellers will at last reap the benefits of the EC's open skies deregulation policy," Sir Michael Bishop, the chairman of British Midland, said. "For the first time ever, the prospect of lower air fares for the business traveller is becoming a reality."

HARVEY ELLIOTT

America bound

CUNARD has introduced a five-day crossing to New York sailing on the QE2 and returning by air. Prices start at £595, including all food and entertainment on board, accommodation for two or three nights in a first class Manhattan hotel, a sightseeing tour in New York, the flight between New York and London and all transfers. Available dates May 6, May 28, June 22 or July 26 (071-491 3930).

PARIS Travel Service (0920 467467) offers two nights in Paris, departing Heathrow, from £170 (two-star hotel) to £288 (four-star deluxe hotel) including accommodation with breakfast, transfers and a Métro pass.

A SEVEN-NIGHT holiday in the Harz mountains, eastern Germany, taken during May, costs from £329 per person (based on two sharing). Available from Moswin Tours Ltd (0533 714982), the price includes hotel accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis and car ferry from Harwich to the Hook of Holland.

THE FAR EAST FOR FAR LESS.
£599.



IN THE THOMSON WORLDWIDE BROCHURE YOU'LL FIND THOUSANDS OF GREAT VALUE HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING THIS ONE FOR 14 NIGHTS AT THE SIAM BAYVIEW, PATTAYA, THAILAND. DEPARTING 12 MAY – 29 JUNE 93. SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL US ON 081-200 8733

Thomson WORLDWIDE

IF THOMSON DON'T DO IT, DON'T DO IT. (BUT IF THEY DO, DO.)

SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY, EXCLUDING INSURANCE AND FLIGHT SUPPLEMENTS. THOMSON TOUR OPERATIONS LTD. ATOL 2524. ABTA A5217

Quicker to the sun

Save 2 days' travelling – go overnight with your car on Motorail to your holiday destination in France, Italy, Spain or Austria.

Prices frozen at 1992 levels. Save on en-route hotels, tolls and hassle. Benefit from our special low cross-Channel fares.

Call 071-499 1075 for brochure (24 hrs)

MOTORAIL FRENCH RAILWAYS

SAA CELEBRATES "BEST AIRLINE TO AFRICA" AWARDS WITH £100 OFF ECONOMY CLASS TIL MARCH 31ST WITH MORE GREAT VALUE IN APRIL

Call your travel agent or SAA: 251-259 Regent Street, London W1R 7AD Tel: 071-734 9841. Manchester: 061-834 4436. Birmingham: 021-643 9605. Glasgow: 041-221 0015.

SAA SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

UNIQUE TRAIN SPECIAL
Saturday 1st May
Class 47/8 Locomotive, wood panelled 1st class coaches. Hereford - around Wales scenic Heart of Wales line and back to Hereford via Knighton and Craven Arms. Champagne breakfast, Hotel lunch stopover at Llandrindod Wells and Cream Tea.
£125pp Accommodation/Avail.
For your free brochure with over 100 activities.
Tel: 0432 357335, Acorn Activities, 7 East Street, Hereford HR1 4BY.

At this rate you would think it was Christmas...

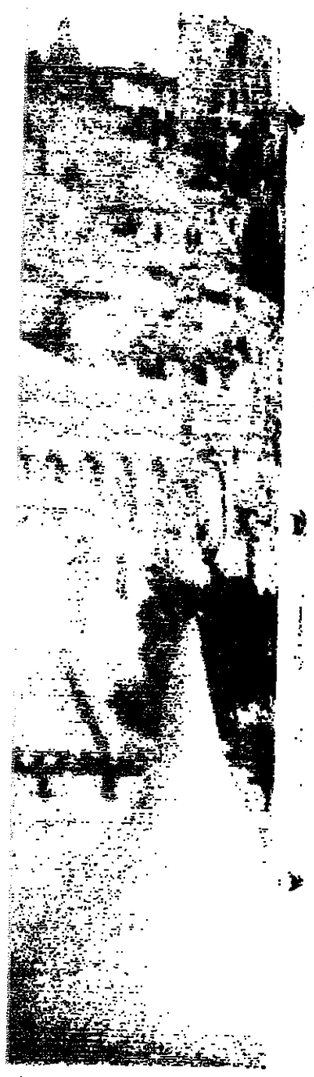
£109
Per Night
(Includes Breakfast & VAT)

Rates valid from April 9th to 12th 1993
To make a reservation just ask for the Easter rate and call
071 493 1232

EASTER AT
LONDON Marriott HOTEL
10 Grosvenor Square London W1A 4AW Tel 071 493 1232

Spirit

Room prices are down at Hilton



Peter Victor pounded the West End streets in search of the best discount for a hotel room

It may take a little nerve to walk into one of London's plush, five-star hotels and start haggling over room prices. But the benefits are real: some of the capital's most prestigious hotels are offering discounts of up to half their published prices.

London's hotel trade is viewed as a barometer for the whole industry. Amid the recession, hoteliers have also been hard hit by a slump in bookings caused by anxiety at the time of the Gulf war, but a recent survey has indicated that premium hotels, at least, are slowly climbing out of the recession.

Around 160 hoteliers from 20 countries, members of the European Hotel Managers' Association, met recently to discuss the problems facing their industry. They concluded that the trend to discount room rates to draw in business had not worked.

A midweek stroll down London's Park Lane, though, reveals that even internationally renowned hotels can still be persuaded to do a deal. Most of these hotels charge around £200 a night for a single room, but when approached with a little panache, two were willing to offer discounts on the spot.

The Hilton offered to reduce its single room rate of £180 a night by £60 and the Inter-Continental said it could cut its rate from £190 to £165 if I wished to check in there and then.

Three other hotels, the Grosvenor House, the Dorchester and the Inn on the Park refused, politely, to negotiate on rates. The receptionist at the £211-a-night Grosvenor House said that the only way I could get a reduction on that price was if my company had an account with the hotel, or through a travel agent. The Dorchester — £180 — said its rate was competitive and there was no hope of a discount. The Inn on the Park said its £200 plus VAT was the best it could do.

On the phone, the Sheraton in Belgravia said its normal rate was £200 but offered £99. The Athenaeum, in Piccadilly, initially quoted £165 plus VAT, but quickly adjusted to £130. Brown's, in Mayfair, said it could supply a single room, normally £175, for under £100. Cheaper hotels also respond to negotiation. The Hospitality Inn, in Bayswater, normally £75 a night, offered a weekend rate of £39, including breakfast.

The recession has brought home to hoteliers the simple truth that an empty hotel room yields nothing.

According to a survey by Howart Consulting and the English Tourist Board, hotel occupancy was down to 48 per cent in 1992, compared with 51 per cent the previous year.

> The simple truth is that an empty hotel room yields nothing

London's top hotels — those charging more than £85.50 per single room per night — bucked that trend, as they increased their occupancy rates by 2 per cent, to 65 per cent.

The downturn in occupancy is reflected in figures prepared by Green Belfield Smith, a division of Touche Ross, which provides management consultancy and accountancy services to the leisure, tourism and catering industries. It has reported an increase in the number of hotels going into receivership. Andries de Vaal, a partner at Touche Ross, said that Horwath/ETB's research indicated volume was starting to return to the hotel market but there is still pressure on hoteliers to continue to discount rates: "For the time being, organised buyers, be they corporate or tour operators or even switched-on individuals, are able to negotiate reductions."

> 'Switched-on individuals are able to negotiate reductions'

They need to be quick, though, because London may soon return to its traditional shortage of rooms, allowing hoteliers to hold firm to their pricing policies again.

For the customer seeking bargains, it is worth noting that it is much harder to persuade a hotel to drop its price on Monday or Thursday nights, when hotels are in greater demand. Increasingly, the more professional hoteliers are turning to the sort of revenue management systems that have been in use for some time by the airline industry.

Hotels can make a decision on whether and how much to discount a room to guarantee that the maximum number of rooms are occupied for the maximum return. Dedicated computer software tells management how many rooms are likely to go unlet based on charging the full rate. They can then discount appropriately.

The Copthorne Tara was one of the first hotels in Europe to install a computerised revenue management system. Eighteen months ago it started using an American system called Impact. Eoin Dillon, the hotel's general manager, said the system had enabled it to improve occupancy and revenue during the recession: "The system will really come into its own when the market is a bit better but it has been a considerable advantage. Our position in the market has improved."

The system absorbs details of new bookings and "learns" from experience. Even so, Mr Dillon said, its output is used only as guidance: "Computers are interesting but they don't make decisions."

He said, however, that the customer does benefit: "You might ring today and get X room at Y discount. You could ring tomorrow and get a different price because we've sold as many as we want to at Y. You might get an even cheaper price."

Graham Tayler, the chairman of the British Association of Hotel Representatives, said that hotel managers were all aware of selling a perishable product: "If we don't sell that room tonight, then the chance is gone. However, if hoteliers are pushed to offer discounts to survive, then the level of service must drop in the long term. We have to reinvest. Discounting in a non-scientific way is not in the interests of the customer."

Both the Grosvenor House and Brown's are Forte hotels. The group says its policy is not to offer discounts: "The company prefers to add value. Apart from corporate discounts it might be possible to do a deal if a businessman turns up late one evening but normally we don't do discounts for rack-rate business."

For those businessmen who find the idea of haggling over a hotel check-in counter distasteful, the Guild of Business Travel agents has produced a worldwide guide to preferential and discounted corporate rates which can be obtained by guild members.

● *Guild of Business Travel Agents 071-222 2744.*

MICHAEL POWELL



Hotel haggler: Peter Victor outside the five-star London Hilton, where he was able to book a £180 per night room for just £120

Qantas set for a battle

BA's move into Pacific routes will not be unopposed

Sir Colin Marshall, British Airways' chairman, will attend a meeting of Qantas' board next month for the first time since BA bought 25 per cent of the Australian airline earlier this month, *Joanna Walters writes.*

At that meeting, board members — now including Sir Colin and two other British members — are expected to discuss how much influence BA will be allowed.

There is every likelihood that the board will decide to incorporate its domestic arm, Australian Airlines, acquired last year, into a single Qantas brand.

John Ward, the company's managing director said that the government-held 75 per cent holding in Qantas is likely to go on sale in October or November. Indications are that the airline will be valued at between £1.3 and £1.6 billion.

The deal with BA comes as Australia is turning increasingly to the Asia-Pacific region and is talking of becoming a republic. "That is a sign that the deal was judged on its business merits and not by political factors," Mr Ward said. "The future of Qantas is very much in Asia, and it is because of that, not in spite of it, that we have so much to offer BA."



Influential: Sir Colin Marshall

But Qantas/BA may yet find itself head-to-head with a new force on the UK-Australia route by 1995. Singapore International Airlines has signed an agreement with Ansett Australia, which, as part of the government's deregulation process, has been allowed to apply for international traffic rights. With the help of SIA cash, Ansett could start phasing in regional routes in competition with Qantas.

Joanna Walters writes for *Travel Trade Gazette.*

Lap-top computers and other electronic devices may soon be banned on some flights as they could interfere with navigation controls

Innocent fun that could be catastrophic

Northwest Airlines is to tighten controls on passengers' use of electronic equipment on board its aircraft following increasing evidence that some devices can interfere with aircraft navigation equipment, *Harvey Elliott writes.*

From now on, all electronic items must be stowed for takeoff and landing and only approved devices — calculators, portable computers, tape players and some electronic games — will be allowed once the aircraft is higher than 10,000ft.

John Kern, Northwest's vice president for operations, said: "Safety is our number one priority and since questions remain as to the effect some electronic devices have on aircraft navigational systems we feel these restrictions are compatible with both the safety demands of our cockpit crew and the comfort of our passengers."

About 40 pilots throughout America have complained to the US government that their flight controls were upset by passengers' electronic gadgets. The complaints have prompted an airline industry group to push for an outright ban.

"There is a feeling among pilots that these devices cause interference. During crucial phases of flight, pilots don't have a lot of time to react," said Tim Neal, spokesman for the Air Transport Association, or ATA.

The organisation, representing 19 major airlines, is pressing the government for an in-flight ban on all electronic devices from lap-top computers to compact disc players and remote-control toys.

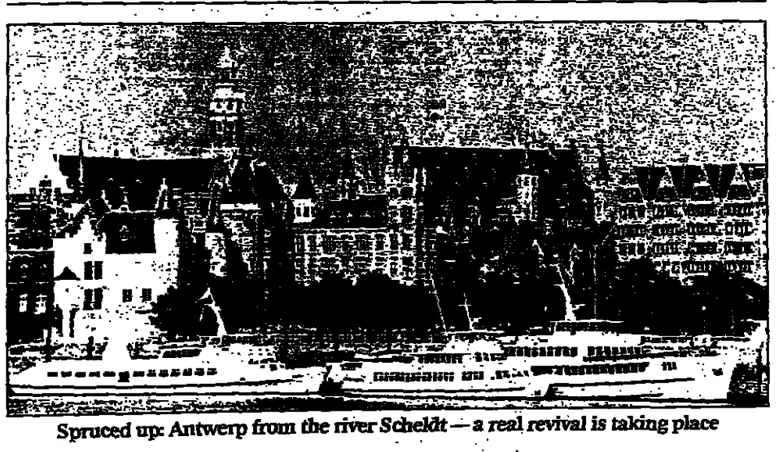
Recently, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a warning to pilots of possible interference from these devices but it added "the probability of all necessary conditions occurring simultaneously is extremely low". It has ordered further study.

Though the interference is rare, a sampling of complaints that pilots filed anonymously with the government's NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System described extraordinary interruption of controls.

Research showed that a majority of the complaints about interference involved cellular phones or citizens' band radios. The second-most common complaint involved lap-top computers, followed by remote-control toys.

Delta Airlines has a list of prohibited items that includes cellular phones, portable CD players and FM receivers. The list is posted on the back of the airline seats.

British Airways routinely warns passengers not to use portable telephones in flight.



Spruced up: Antwerp from the river Scheldt — a real revival is taking place

Antwerp uncovers its cultural roots

Europe's new city of culture is using the year to reinvent its image

Six years ago, Bob Cools decided to set the city of Antwerp a challenge: he would nominate his city as the Cultural Capital of Europe for 1993. Mr Cools is the mayor of Antwerp and he knew perfectly well that few people in the city, let alone anywhere else, would take it seriously as a cultural metropolis. Yet tomorrow the Belgian city takes over the mantle from Madrid.

In the 16th century, Antwerp may have been twice the size of London and home to Van Dyck and Rubens but Belgium's northern port is now a grime-encrusted urban melting pot whose glories were flattened by German bombers and post-war planners.

Mr Cools was suggesting that the city re-invent itself. The EC's scheme to nominate a "city of culture" each year began as little more than a gimmick dreamt up by the then Greek culture minister Melina Mercouri. By degrees, the title has become a cue for neglected cities to break out of their industrial shells. Mr Cools was inspired by Glasgow, which held the title in 1990 and used it as the launchpad for an energetic marketing campaign.

Antwerp decided that the trick lay in combining a low-key arts festival with heavy investment in restoring the city's monuments. The arts programme, which runs to the end of the year, is superstar-free — no Matisse shows, no Dame Kiri Te Kanawa — but it unrolls against a restored and regenerated city backdrop which will remain when the theatre companies, children's village, equestrian ballet and video screens have faded away. "Glasgow targeted a change in the image of a whole city," says Mark Vanderbeeken of Antwerp '93. "We are aiming to tell people that Antwerp has moved from being an industrial labourers' city to something more culturally happening."

Any visitor searching for the cultural happening will be struck by the extravagant scale of Mr Vanderbeeken's optimism. Antwerp is a grisly jumble of architectural mediocrity. The city's site at the mouth of the river Scheldt has been, and still is, a magnet drawing streams of itinerant people from across Europe.

The 20th century has not been kind to the city. Higgledy-piggledy little 17th century houses cower behind dirt, neon signs and clanging trams. The opera house is on the ring road. The city's treasures are scattered and little-labelled: a nondescript street can reveal the calm oasis of a small Flemish renaissance cloister, but few guide books will take you there. The organisers of Antwerp '93 sensibly accepted that even by spending £20 million on the culture year and pulling in another £60 million in related investment, they could not provide a miracle cure for long neglect.

The cathedral, under scaffolding and tarpaulins for almost two decades, reopens restored this weekend. The magnificent neo-classical station has been cleaned and re-gilded. The two main shopping streets have been made pedestrian precincts. Best of all, the city has spent two years on a loving restoration of the early 19th-century Bourla theatre, ending a decade of disuse and deterioration. Mr Cools's trick is working: the combined effect of the clean-up is greater than the sum of the projects.

The claims of urban renewal are exaggerated only on the riverfront where the wrought-iron loading sheds on the old docks are still a series of messy car parks. Antwerp has barely begun to imitate the waterfront revival projects of America's seaports. But in the rest of a city, a real revival is taking shape.

GEORGE BROCK

● *Antwerp '93, 29 Grote Markt, Antwerp. 010 323 226 9300*

TRAVELOG

Grecian Virgin

VIRGIN Atlantic starts a scheduled daily service to Athens from Gatwick next week under a franchise agreement with the Greek-based South East European Airlines. The Hermes (business) class service will offer 36-inch seat pitch, with 132 economy seats offering 32-inch pitch. Economy fares are expected to start at £265 return and £688 return for Hermes (business) class. Call 0293 747747 for economy class and 0293 747500 for Hermes.

Go for a song

YOU can travel in style to see Luciano Pavarotti's only performance in the United Kingdom this year. For an all-inclusive £380, Orient Express is offering a package that includes a seat in the first 15 rows of the arena at Leeds Castle, Kent, on August 29, following a journey on its British Pullman train, with champagne and a late lunch on the way there and a light supper on the return trip.

For further details, contact Julia Turner: 071-620 0003.

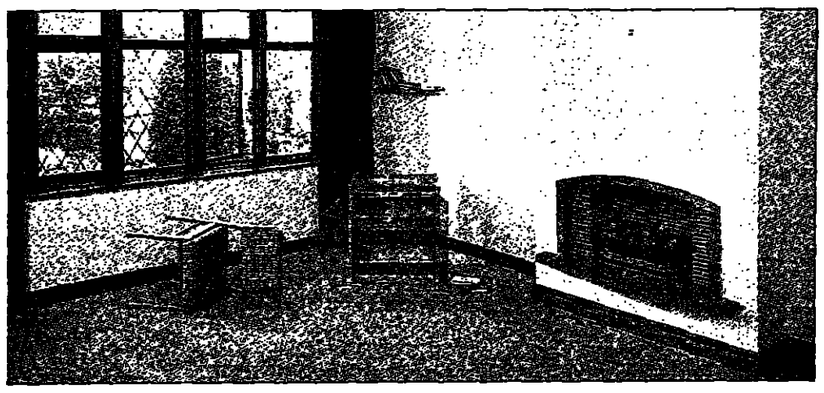


Trained: Pavarotti

Weekend

On Saturday: Boulogne since the last ferries left; a family weekend break in Paris; and how to avoid Paris by car

DON'T LET A BURGLAR SPRING-CLEAN YOU OUT.



Spring is approaching. The time for bank holiday breaks and, of course, burglars. Who knows what you could come home to?

Make sure it's you that does the spring cleaning. Invest in a Telecom Security System with 24-hour monitoring.

Where an ordinary burglar alarm will simply ring if an unwanted intruder enters, ours sends a signal down your telephone line to our Central Monitoring Station. We contact the emergency services for you in person (and we even check for false alarms).

We're there 24 hours a day whether you're there or not. And you're even covered for fire or medical emergencies. Total peace of mind.

Make sure you're not left with an empty feeling. Simply call the number below or return the coupon for more information.

SECURE YOUR BROCHURE NOW

CALL US FREE ON 0800 010 999 DAY OR NIGHT

YES I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT TELECOM SECURITY. (PLEASE TICK AS APPROPRIATE)

☐ PLEASE SEND ME MY FREE COPY OF YOUR COLOUR BROCHURE RIGHT AWAY

☐ PLEASE CONTACT ME TO ARRANGE A FREE HOME SURVEY

TMS/G/25/03

MR/MRS/MISS/MS INITIALS SURNAME (BLOCK CAPITALS)

ADDRESS

POSTCODE TEL

TO: TELECOM SECURITY LIMITED, FREEPOST (TK819), FELTHAM TW13 4BR (NO STAMP NEEDED)

Telecom Security

A TELECOM SECURITY SYSTEM FOR MOST HOMES WITH UP TO THREE BEDROOMS COSTS FROM £895 ANNUAL MONITORING FEE PROVIDING 24 HOUR PROTECTION IS £149. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS (3/93)

PEACE OF MIND, AROUND THE CLOCK.

Shares drift in dull trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 15. Dealings end March 26. §Contango day March 29. Settlement day April 5. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	First Leisure	Leisure	
2	Jardine Math	Industrial	
3	Vodafone	Electrical	
4	Menvier-Sw	Electrical	
5	Rugby Group	Building,Rds	
6	Johnstne Press	Newspapr,Pub	
7	Smith David	Paper,Print	
8	Portsmth Sund	Newspapr,Pub	
9	Nthn Foods	Foods	
10	Wholesale Ftgs	Electrical	
11	Relyon	Industrial	
12	BAT	Tobaccos	
13	Redland	Building,Rds	
14	Molins	Industrial	
15	Reed Int	Newspapr,Pub	
16	Mitel	Electrical	
17	Willis Corroon	Insurance	
18	Richardson West	Industrial	
19	Johnson Clean	Business Serv	
20	Allied Irish	Banks,Disc	
21	HK Land	Property	
22	Greene King	Breweries	
23	Swire Pack 'A'	Industrial	
24	BICC	Electrical	
25	Brown & Tawse	Industrial	
26	Granada	Industrial	
27	Abbey Panels	Motors,Air	
28	Euro Disney	Leisure	
29	Ulster TV	Leisure	
30	Mersey Docks	Transport	
31	Reuters	Industrial	
32	Airtours	Leisure	
33	Cap & Regnl	Property	
34	Govett	Finance, Land	
35	Hambro Cntyw	Property	
36	Amec	Building,Rds	
37	Guinness	Breweries	
38	Ramsdens (H)	Leisure	
39	More O'Ferrall	Paper,Print	
40	Marley	Building,Rds	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Total

Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

The winner of yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000 was Mrs M Jarvis of Chester, Cheshire.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
403	245½	Abbey Ntl	368 †	+3	11.5	4.2	14.2
234	154	Allied Irish	230 †	+4	...	4.9	-
197½	106	Aus New Z	165	+1	...	3.8	...
3806½	1906½	Bankamerica	3425 †	-50	...	...	...
239	141	Bk of Ireland	230	-1	...	5.2	36.8
345	320	Bk Leumi UK	325 †	...	17.0	7.0	...
140	97	Bank Scotland	131	...	4.3	4.4	20.6
464	274	Barclays	415 †	+5	15.1	4.9	-
6	1½	Benchmark	3	...	...	...	...
204	25	Brown Shipley	36	...	...	...	...
21	10	Carlisle	16½	...	...	...	...
465	295	Cater Allen	455	+2	26.0	7.5	...
115	61	Cantles	114½	...	...	5.0	-
2450	912½	Chase Manh	2362½	-31½	...	...	...
2043½	537½	Chicorp	1987½	+25	...	...	...
345	205	Close Bros	343 †	...	...	3.7	15.3
£129	8687½	Commerzbk	£120½	+162½	...	3.3	...
£304½	£214	Deutsche Bk	£299½	...	...	2.2	...
81	11½	First Nat Fin	58	...	...	...	...
1227	493	Fuji Bank Y	1132	-69	...	0.4	61.0
430	230	Gerrard Nat	430	...	21.0	6.5	...
654	236	HSBC	607	+11	...	4.7	...
634	313	HSBC HK	594	+9	...	3.4	24.0
356	202	Hambros	351	-4	13.8	5.2	15.6
363	208	Joseph (L)	358	...	15.8	5.9	...
120	54	King Shaxson	119	...	5.0	5.4	...
395	212	Kleinwort Ben	393	-1	16.0	5.4	-
573	346	Lloyds	513	-4	18.4	4.8	7.4
83	40	Lon Scot Bk	82	...	3.0	4.9	16.3
432	258	Nat Aust Bk	419	+2	...	5.2	13.6
485	251	Nat West	422	-1	...	5.5	30.9
627	418	Provident	627	+3	28.5	4.6	14.3
47	25	Rea Bros	44	...	0.5	1.5	-
261½	137	Ryl Bk Scot	244	-1	8.8	4.8	...
1975	1043	Schroders	1913	-52	22.0	1.5	-
731	364	Stand Chart	713 †	-2	...	3.7	...
187½	115	TSB	171	-1	6.4	5.0	...
200	38	Union Disc	101	...	...	...	...
646	403	Warburg SG	641	-2	18.0	3.7	19.0
217	137	-do- 6% 'A'	214½	...	...	3.7	...
7625	3087½	Wells Fargo	7312½	-81½	...	1.4	...
183	99	Westpac	144	...	...	5.6	...
253	188	Wintrust	209	...	9.3	5.9	9.1

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
712	526	Allied-Lyons	565	...	20.0	4.7	13.1
666	472	Bass	561	-1	18.9	4.5	12.2
259	146	Boddington	257 †	...	7.3	3.8	-
409	243	Bulmer (HP)	408	...	9.0	2.9	19.8
159	111	Burtonwd Brw	144	...	4.4	4.1	10.5
295	194	Devenish (JA)	288	-1	7.8	3.6	16.2
107	68	Eldridge P 'A'a	87	-1	...	5.0	23.0
94½	47	Fosters Brewing	58½	+1½	...	5.0	7.5
449	338	Fullr Sm 'A'a	350	...	...	2.6	14.7
518	360	Grand Met	456	+1	12.3	3.6	15.0
424½	265	Greenalls Grp	411	+1	11.7	3.8	13.6
557	406	Greene King	557	+6	11.6	2.8	14.5
644	440	Guinness	460	+5	...	3.5	16.1
346	230	Hardy Hanson	240	-3	7.9	4.4	13.3
145	108	Heavitreea	108	...	3.0	3.8	25.9
105	78	-do- 'A' LVa	78	...	3.0	5.2	18.7
305	191	Highland Dstd	278	-1	6.0	2.9	18.5
3050	2040	Holt J	3038	...	35.0	1.5	21.1
55	21	Hoskins Brew	48	...	...	...	34.6
335	250	Invrgordn Dist	270	-1	7.0	3.5	-
220	151	Macallan-Glen	179	...	0.7	0.6	36.1
526	380	Macdn Martn 'A'	445	...	8.8	2.6	13.9
720	515	Mansfield	720	...	13.6	2.5	15.5
269	166	Mrston Thmp	254	-1	4.9	2.6	14.9
477	394	Matthew Clark	422	...	15.7	5.0	12.7
351	195	Mrrydwn W	273	...	...	3.0	19.7
495	320	Morland	475	-3	8.4	2.4	18.9
12	5	Paramounta	10½	...	...	2.1	18.6
1020	665	SA Breweries	900	-8	...	3.0	-
492	360	Scot & New	461	-3	16.1	4.7	12.6
200	145	Taunton Cider	195	...	...	3.2	18.2
241	148	Vaux Group	238	...	9.3	5.2	16.4
268	165	Wetherspoon JD	263	-2	...	2.5	21.1
499	347	Whitbread 'A'	470	-6	16.9	4.8	13.2
1436	950	-do- 'B'	950	...	16.9	2.4	26.7
660	510	Wolvrhmptn D	613	...	11.4	2.5	17.2
545	453	Young 'A'	493	-12	14.5	3.9	21.6

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
105	60	Abbey	100	...	...	1.4	36.1
27	9	Albrightona	19	...	...	...	...
128	54	Allena	102	...	...	6.5	10.6
182	53	Amec	81	+5	3.0	5.0	-
27	2½	Anglia Sec	6½	...	...	...	...
192	85	Ashmeada	175	+1	4.1	3.1	21.8
151	100	Atwoods	125	...	5.0	5.4	17.8
238	123	BPB Ind	214	-1	...	4.7	54.4
102	50	Baggeridge Brk	77	...	3.1	5.4	25.0
31	15	Bailey (Ben) Con	29 †	...	0.5	...	...
119	68	Barcom	97	...	1.2	1.9	15.8
138	34	Barratt Devs	133	-5	2.0	2.0	14.7
393	305	Bellway	377	+4	11.5	4.1	21.2
32	14	Belwfnch	23	...	...	...	...
377	175½	Berkeley Gp	375	...	...	2.1	25.9
100	45	Bett Bros	63	...	...	...	2.0
89	37	Blockleys	46	...	3.3	...	45.7
284½	121	Blue Circle	226	+1	11.2	6.6	22.6
280	140½	Boot Glenry	280	...	...	2.6	15.3
109	62	Breedon PLC	84	-5	4.6	7.3	16.3
126	66	Br Dredging	101	-1	7.4	9.8	13.1
80	42	Brit Fittings	48	...	5.3	...	...
130	60	Brrant	129	...	4.8	5.0	27.6
80	38	CALA	53	...	2.3	...	...
249	197	CRH	244	+6	...	3.9	-
48	14	Cakebread Rby	33	...	...	...	...
92	18½	Costain	33	-2	4.7	...	...
143	51	Countryside	115	-2	4.1	4.8	30.4
66	23	Crest Nicholson	60	+2	0.0	...	...
65	14	Cussins	63	...	...	...	...
6	½	Dunlona	2	...	...	...	...
45	12	Edmond Hldgs	22½	...	0.5	3.0	...
211	132	Erwin	180	...	...	4.9	14.8
54	23	Erith	43	...	2.0	...	...
379	220	Ev Groupa	335	...	...	3.9	12.1
88	25	Evered Bardon	39	...	5.0	...	21.0
19	3	Explanea	6½	...	...	...	...
135	68	Freeman Gpa	104	...	...	...	...
79	38	Galliford	38 †	...	4.3	...	15.3
98	75	Gibbs & Dandy	75	...	...	...	...
925	578	Gleeson (MJ)	790	...	12.7	2.3	11.1
114	62	Hewden-Stuart	102	...	3.1	4.1	21.3
63	28	Hewetson	50	...	2.6	...	49.8
388	128	Heywd Wim	261	-2	12.5	7.1	...
106	29	Higgs & Hill	63	...	9.0	...	9.6
33	23	Hew Gp	30	...	2.5	...	11.4
20	10	Howard Hldgs	18	...	0.5	3.7	...
96	36	Ibstock Johnsen	58	...	6.0	...	...
43	14½	Jarvis	18	...	0.5	...	...
247	109	Laing (J)	238	-1	9.0	5.0	12.4
122	55	Ln Cnrcetea	55	...	4.5	10.9	20.7
26	4½	Lovell (YJ)	20	...	...	...	9.1
305	180	Manders	304 †	-1	9.0	3.9	18.6
148	57	Marley	133	+5	4.2	4.6	-
97	47	Marshalls	75	...	...	8.9	25.1
155	101	Maunders (J)	124	...	4.9	5.3	11.4
219	76	McAlpine (A)	196	...	6.5	3.6	22.0
75	19	McCarthy & S	34	...	0.5	6.1	...
433	181	Meyer Int	316	+1	16.5	7.0	32.5
14	4	Miskin Gpa	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	88	-3	10.5	...	...
78	18	NSM	71	-2	...	...	...
83	49	Needler a	49	...	...	7.8	26.6
165	90	Newman Tnks	125	...	...	8.5	-
327	146	Persimmon	236 †	...	8.6	4.9	24.1
36	19	Phoenix Timber	23	...	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochins	1462½	...	20.0	2.7	8.9
155	66	Prowting	95	...	3.4	4.8	...
23	3½	Quiligotti a	5½	...	...	...	...
609	363	RMC Gp	600	+1	20.0	4.4	22.3
137	67	Raine Ind	97 †	...	6.0	8.2	16.2
96	20	Rantus a	23	...	...	...	...
505	300	Redland	488	+4	25.0	6.8	21.0
101	61	Roskel	73	...	4.3	7.9	9.8
248	152	Rugby Group	248	+5	6.4	3.5	-
48	25	Symd-Rse a	40	...	...	...	7.2
103	50	Sharpe & Fisher	102	...	4.0	5.4	-
172	70	Sheffield Insl	163	+1	5.4	4.5	-
91	53	Sherriff Hldgs a	90	...	...	3.0	13.4
86	53	Shorco a	85	...	...	8.2	13.1
272	188	Smart (J)	220	...	8.5	5.2	10.0
15	6½	Starmin	9½	...	0.3	7.3	6.6
161	51	Tarmac	119	+2	5.5	6.2	49.2
236	129	Tay Homes	175	...	5.8	4.5	11.1
143	34	Taylor Woodrw	86	...	9.5	...	12.2
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	510	...	33.0	8.6	16.8
48	18	Torex Hire a	27	...	...	2.3	...
228	105	Travis Perkins	182	-3	9.0	5.9	25.7
58	20	Try Group	33	...	1.0	4.1	-
38	26	Tudor a	26	...	...	...	...
106	41	Vibroplant	48	-1	3.6	10.0	8.8
55	12	Ward Hldgs	38	...	...	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	36	...	...	...	...
475	265	Watts Blake	445	...	9.3	2.8	23.1
19	8	Wescol a	12	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westbury	119	...	...	5.4	...
18	4½	West Scaffold a	9	...	...	...	...
22	2	Wiggins	10	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	383	...	8.7	3.1	-
221	96	Wilson (C)	162	-1	3.9	3.2	25.7
189	65	Wimpey G	142	-4	5.2	5.0	-
81	25	YRM	30	...	4.0	...	3.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	340	ADT	628	-5	...	...	-
248	193	Adam & Harvey	218	...	11.0	6.7	3.4
127	53	Air London a	83	-2	...	5.6	10.2
63	34	African Lakes	50	...	2.0	5.3	9.9
175	81	Auto Sec	157	-1	5.3	4.6	...
208	80	BET Ord	96	...	...	9.0	14.1
100	41	BNB Res	70	...	4.9	9.3	8.2
318	208	BPP	288	-1	8.0	3.8	-
285	178	Barbour Index	274	-1	7.2	3.5	20.3
30½	13	Boustead	18	...	0.7	5.2	36.8
236	111	Brit Data Mgt	226 †	-1	...	2.1	18.8
14	9	Broadcastle a	14	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	60	...	4.0	...	19.1
142	72	CRT Gp	95 †	-2	2.4	3.4	10.9
484	262	Capita Group	479 †	...	6.3	1.8	-
36	19	Casket Plc	33½	...	0.5	2.0	12.7
270	25½	Chiltern Capital	52½	...	...	...	...
39	22	Chrisue	31	...	...	...	...
295	180	Chubb Sec	277	+1	...	1.3	30.6
43	16	Comac a	31	...	...	...	...
31	5½	Corp Services	11½	...	...	...	...
123	48	Dart	76	...	3.3	5.8	8.6
230	145	Davis Service	229	+1	7.9	4.8	-
115	85	EW Fact a	97	...	4.3	5.9	7.2
57	8	Gardiner	16	...	0.6	5.6	-
48	30	Gardner (DC)	35	+1	...	...	...
246	163	Hays	238	-3	4.6	2.6	23.3
251	167½	Hogg Robinson	188	-3	6.3	4.5	14.1
143½	43	Holmes Protectn	64	...	...	...	3.8
162	98	Hunch Wharmp	150	+7	...	3.2	-
£119	6637½	ISS B DKr	£117	+175	...	1.0	15.7
637	375	Inchcape	581	+4	12.5	2.9	24.7
963	561	Johnson Clean	839	+4	25.7	4.2	-
18½	2½	Lep	9½	...	...	...	...
244	168	Mitie Gp	218	-2	2.7	1.7	15.0
1187	682	Manpower	1138	...	...	...	...
44½	32½	Michael Page	44	...	1.8	5.6	-
279	88	Penna a	274	...	...	1.0	69.4
9½	2	Prime People a	3½	...	...	...	...
398	68	Proudfoot Alex	114	...	19.5	22.8	2.4
455	353	RCO	405	...	12.8	4.6	13.9
183	117	REA	117	...	4.0	4.6	...
81	43	Reed Executive	54	...	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Sec a	155	-1	...	3.9	15.6
13	4	Rentaminster a	4 #	...	...	...	...
238	134	Rentokil	214	+2	2.3	1.5	-
273	180	Rolfe & Nolan	273	...	6.2	3.0	18.3
390	234	Salvesen (C)	376	-1½	7.0	2.5	20.8
43	25	Scott Pickford a	34	...	...	3.1	9.4
206	98	Securiguard	180	...	9.4	7.0	9.5
12	1½	Select Appt a	6	...	...	...	...
948	555	Serco Gp	948 †	+3	14.0	2.0	-
352	132	Sherwd Cmpt a	330	...	...	2.4	8.9
157	82½	Skenchley	117	...	3.0	3.4	14.2
360	270	Warner Howrd	350	...	5.9	2.2	19.8
81	39	Welpac	39	...	0.6	2.1	...
22	7	Wills Gp	22	+1	...	0.6	30.1

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	162	Allied Colloids	236	-1	3.9	2.1	18.7
759	413	Amersham	755	+2	12.5	2.2	28.0
31½	4½	Anglo Utd	4½	...	0.3	...	...
£101½	7362½	BASF DM	9750	+25	...	7.1	...
269	201	BTP	262	-3	8.8	4.5	19.2
£119	9050	Bayer DM50	£112½	...	...	5.1	...
248	126	Blagden	148 †	-8	9.5	8.6	-
165	115	Brent Chems	155	...	7.4	6.6	-
530	418	Br Bio-Tech	470	...	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Gp	23½	+½	2.5	14.7	5.9
179	112	Canning (W)	141	...	7.2	6.9	11.3
616	371	Courtaulds	562	+1	13.0	3.1	15.3
270½	142	Croda	245	-2	7.5	4.1	18.6
146	76	Doeflex	133	...	4.6	4.7	-
211	152	Ellis & Everard	184	...	7.0	5.1	16.8
27½	7	Euro Colour	18½	...	0.6	4.7	...
291	171	Halmead (J)	290	...	...	2.8	14.4
227	158	Hickson	216	...	7.8	4.8	13.8
£114½	7537½	Hoechst	£103½	+150	...	6.0	...
1410	975	ICI	1205 †	-16	55.0	6.1	29.9
688	434	Laporte	628	+1	19.5	4.2	-
328	138	Leigh	206	...	7.8	5.1	16.8
290	11	MTM	13½	...	1.8	...	2.7
1712½	1100	Norsk Hydro	1662½	+25	...	1.7	-
430	360	Paterson Zoch	420	...	11.4	3.7	18.0
395	355	-do- 'A'	373	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
301	231	Plysu	264	-1	6.0	3.0	17.8
206	130	Porvair	198	...	3.6	2.4	21.2
13	4½	Sutcliffe Speak	12½	...	...	...	...
475	329	Wardle Storeys	428	...	16.0	5.0	17.2
455	270	Wstnhlme E	443	-7	16.3	4.9	19.5
391	245½	Yorks Chem	381	...	...	2.7	20.4
305	214	Yule Catto	305	...	5.4	2.4	18.5

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	63	Alexon	103	+7	...	3.9	5.6
109	23	Amber Day	60	+1	3.1	6.9	16.4
317	190	Argos Plc	308	+1	...	3.1	20.8
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	78	+1	0.1	0.2	...
305	180	Asprey a	280	...	...	2.2	23.5
240	180	Austin Reed	195	...	6.0	...	56.8
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	143	...	5.7	5.4	13.7
144	74	Bentalls	120	...	3.8	4.3	67.7
266	86	Betterware	263	+3	...	0.6	36.2
114	22	Blacks Leis	25	...	3.3	...	5.2
371	133	Body Shop	202	+3	1.6	1.1	23.3
15½	3	Brown & Jacksn	15½	+½	...	...	...
401	260	Brown (N)	400	...	6.0	2.0	24.8
84	29	Burton	82½	-½	...	3.3	...
320	126	Cantors	143 †	...	...	2.5	19.1
358	245	Church	318	...	12.5	5.4	-
183	58	Clinton Cards	168	+8	4.2	3.4	-
245	151	Coats Viyella	233	-6	...	4.2	25.1
163	77	Colourvision a	90	...	...	...	15.2
457	300	Courts Furnish	456	...	5.0	1.5	22.9
252	100	Crown Eyes a	140	...	...	5.7	6.5
111	65	Dairy Farm Inti	94	-2	...	4.0	-
62	27½	Dewhirst (IJ)	61	-½	0.7	1.6	20.2
286	179	Dixons Grp	225	+2	6.0	3.6	26.5
495	320	Dunhill	344	...	7.7	3.0	11.9
33	12½	ERA Gp	14	-1	...	...	...
780	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	400	...	16.0	5.3	8.9
115	36½	Essex Furn	100	-3	...	3.7	16.7
258	199	Etam	208	...	6.6	4.2	18.6
561	340	Fine Art Dev	561	...	11.0	2.6	21.5
50	26	Fired Earth Tiles	38	...	...	...	...
500	436	Forminster	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
50	5	French Conn a	50	...	...	...	...
75	21	Gabbicci a	43	-1	...	6.2	8.6
69	39	Gem SR	53	...	2.0	5.1	15.3
41	18	Goldsmiths Gp	36	...	1.8	...	...
2650	1800	GUS	2645	...	40.0	2.0	21.1
1728	1319	-do- 'A'	1646	-5	40.0	3.2	13.1
75	30	Hampden Grp a	38	...	...	3.6	-
283	123	Harstone	127	-6	4.8	5.1	7.8
28	16½	Helene Plc	23½	...	2.0	11.4	10.3
42	19	Heritage a	39	...	...	...	...
58	25	Honeysuckle a	50	...	...	2.7	7.1
168	128	Hse of Lerose	141	...	10.3	9.7	21.4
195	40	Jacques Vert	63	...	2.0	...	...
582	398	Kingfisher	544	+3	...	3.4	15.4
74	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	70	...	4.0	7.6	14.4
685	405	Liberty	638	...	7.2	1.5	43.4
373	162	Lloyds Chem	291 †	...	5.5	2.5	11.4
152	90½	MFI	136	-1	...	3.7	18.1
360	268	Marks Spencer	353	+2	7.1	2.7	21.5
490	319	Menzies (John)	476	...	10.0	2.8	15.8
150	110	Moss Bros	148	...	5.0	4.5	28.5
167½	57	Next	163	-1½	0.7	0.6	32.1
85	15	Oliver (G)	22	...	1.0	...	...
250	110	Oriflame Intl	223	...	...	5.4	14.3
143	45	Pentos	52	-1	1.5	3.9	-
283	202	QS Hldgs	283	...	4.7	2.2	21.9
29	7	Ratners Group	17	+½	2.4	18.8	...
35	10	Rhino Grp a	31	...	...	...	...
189	110	Sherwood Gp	143	-2	...	2.1	13.7
113	54	Sears	101	+2	...	4.6	27.7
523	357	Smith WH 'A'	424	-5	13.4	4.2	14.9
29	4½	Spectaleyes a	6½	-½	...	...	...
219	97	Storehouse	194	-5	5.0	3.4	...
256	153	T & S Stores	166	-1	5.9	4.4	10.8
107	77	Tie Rack	104	...	0.5	0.6	...
213	132	Time Products	212	...	7.5	4.7	20.7
100	47	Usher (Frank) a	94	-1	...	7.1	7.4
45	23	Vivat	38	...	1.0	3.6	-
68	28	Wcereum a	39	...	...	...	6.9
104	53	Wickes	103	...	...	...	45.7
70	28	Wld of Leather a	58	...	...	...	68.2
205	102½	Wyevale a	173 †	...	...	3.1	-
7	2	Xtra-vision a	2½	...	...	...	2.7

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
105	45	AB Elect	68	...	...	...	...
197	128	ACT Group	169	...	4.5	3.6	16.6
238	195	Acala	238	...	...	3.3	19.9
162½	6	Acorn Compa	111	-2	...	...	...
480	299	Admiral	445	...	5.4	1.6	18.7
133	94	Alba	131 †	...	4.7	4.9	17.2
75	7	Alphameric	27½	...	...	...	...
44	19	Amstrad	34	-½	0.4	...	...
141	83	App Holo a	105	...	...	...	...
22	12	Arden	14	...	...	...	...
53	12	Astec	53	+2	...	...	-
292	218	Bowles Hunter	267	-1	9.2	4.6	14.1
20	1½	Bennett & Fount	9½	...	...	...	...
391	307	BICC	378	+4	19.2	7.0	24.7
575	314	Blick	477	-18	9.2	2.6	18.6
4575	1150	Borland a	1525	-25	...	...	...
302	208	Bowthorpe	298	...	6.3	2.9	-
449½	305	BT	420	+13	14.4	4.6	15.7
9	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	8½	...	0.1	1.6	...
226	80	Burnfield	140 †	+2	5.7	5.5	-
750	489	Cable Wireless	729	+6	13.2	2.4	22.5
14½	4½	Chloride	12½	...	...	...	...
303	205	CML Micros	251	...	...	2.4	16.5
116	62	Comptr People	97	+2	5.4	...	12.5
151	60½	Cray Elect	135	-1	...	0.5	11.0
326	231	Critchley	326	+3	...	2.5	23.1
500	331	Delta	450	+2	14.0	4.2	-
298	148	Denmans Ele	295	...	...	2.8	-
630	375	Domino	596	-2	7.2	1.6	20.4
66	47	Dowding Mills	54	...	2.5	6.2	17.8
1015	730	Druck a	995	...	...	1.3	24.2
411	233	Electrocompnts	406	...	...	2.3	21.9
573	286	El Data Prc	570	+15	5.1	1.2	15.6
75	28	Electron House	70	...	2.3	4.5	21.3
25½	7	Emess	13	+1½	0.1	0.7	-
559	292	Eurotherm	559	+2	8.0	1.9	25.4
128	81	FKI	123	+1	2.3	2.5	23.8
391	227	Farnell Elect	391	+7½	5.8	2.0	21.3
40	18	Feedback a	35	...	...	...	...
18	3½	Ferranti	16½	...	...	...	...
150	30	First Tech	144	...	...	...	...
153	71	Forward Gp a	150	+2	...	2.2	18.1
28½	10	Forward Tech	20	...	...	...	...
314	183	GEC	308	+5	9.6	4.2	16.3
222	102	Graseby	178	...	10.9	8.5	-
57	38	Hikdarr a	39	...	...	1.5	12.7
466	285	Hoskyns Gp	465	...	2.4	0.7	54.9
135	66	INSTEM a	108	...	...	3.9	-
375	190	Jones Stroud	374	...	8.0	2.9	16.3
21	8	Kembrey	8	...	0.3	6.3	3.1
331	208	Kenwood App	316	+4	...	...	16.7
319	47	Kewill Sys a	75	-3	...	...	3.8
203	92	Kode	184	-4	5.5	4.1	-
46	8	Laser-Scan a	33	...	...	...	...
330	49½	LBMS a	329	-1	...	...	...
315	240	Lee Refrig	276	+1	14.5	7.0	21.1
170	125	Life Sciences	152 †	-1	3.5	3.1	16.5
232	130	Logica	210	+3	3.6	2.3	24.6
55	45	LPA Ind a	46	...	...	10.2	13.0
212	159	MR Data Mngmt	191 †	...	4.3	3.0	18.2
663	371	Matra a	655 †	...	...	2.6	32.0
604½	301	Menvier-Sw a	567	+7	...	2.1	18.6
3013	1453	Micro Focus	2405	...	...	...	32.2
227	130	Microgen	213	...	7.2	4.5	14.5
35	13	Microvitec a	28	+1½	...	...	...
514	201	Misys	489	...	6.1	1.7	22.3
147	40	Mitel	134	-8	...	...	...
138	78	MMT Comp a	119	-1	...	3.9	15.1
40	23	Molynx	20	...	4.0	26.7	1.9
373	202	MTL Inst a	229 †	...	...	2.1	-
166	82	Multitone Elect	139	...	1.0	2.9	17.1
149	71	Murray Enter	144	...	1.8	1.8	-
6412½	3962½	NYNEX	6025	+100	...	...	...
188	115	Neotronics	183	...	2.6	1.9	23.6
63	32	Newmark (L)	52	...	...	...	...
96	33	Nortain a	96	...	...	1.4	14.4
50	20	Northamber	41	-1	0.5	1.6	...
17½	9	Oceonics	12	...	...	...	7.8
254	166	Oxford Inst	234	+9	4.3	2.5	15.8
127	46	P-E Intern'l	54	...	1.0	2.5	...
68	16	P & P	59 †	-1	1.4	3.2	31.3
80	42	Peek	78	...	3.4	6.0	-
190	85	Pegasus a	162	...	...	5.3	41.1
9300	7000	Philips Fn 4%	9000	...	...	6.4	...
1187½	625	-do- Lnsp nv	862½	-25	...	...	...
452	310	Pifco	437 †	...	7.7	2.4	37.0
432	290	-do- 'A' Voting	415 †	...	7.7	2.5	35.1
95	48	Plesmec a	93	...	...	3.6	11.9
104	63	Pressac	95	...	2.4	3.4	19.0
220	65	Psion a	116	+1	...	2.8	...
11	2	Ptarmigan	8½	...	...	...	...
208	129	Racal Elect	206	...	1.5	1.0	24.4
46	26	Radamec	45	...	0.5	1.5	26.4
70	25	Radius a	59 †	...	...	6.1	30.4
118	61	Real Time a	64	-1	...	6.3	5.8
29	10	Riva a	24	...	...	...	...
610	328	Sage Gp	593	-1	9.0	2.0	19.0
66	44	Scantronic	60	...	2.9	6.6	18.9
142	92	Scholes Grp	130	...	5.0	5.2	25.2
340	179	Sema Gp	285	...	2.8	1.3	-
45	21	Silverstones	37	...	...	7.8	...
50	29	Soundtracks a	41	...	...	7.2	13.8
2050	1275	TDK	1975	-62½	...	1.5	19.7
8	3	TDS Circuits a	7½	...	...	...	...
141	30	Telemetrix	133	-2	0.6	0.6	46.4
888	633	THORN EMI	877½	+12½	30.1	4.6	22.6
111	88	Thorpe FW	110	...	2.5	3.0	11.3
103	33	Total Systems a	84	...	2.2	3.6	15.0
429	190	Tunstall	405	...	6.0	2.0	18.2
240	123	Unitech	222	...	5.8	3.5	38.8
24½	6	Verity a	6	...	...	...	...
37½	13	Vistec a	33	...	...	1.2	28.1
434	285	Vodafone	394	+3	...	2.0	19.3
441	269½	Volex	425	...	...	5.3	21.6
20	10	Western Selectn	20	...	...	...	...
287	153	Wholesale Ftgs	231	+4	11.7	6.8	22.0

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
472	273	East Midlands	462	+2	17.1	4.9	8.9
484	266	Eastern Elect	479	-2	16.7	4.6	11.9
265	143	Hydro-Elect	260	-3	10.1	4.1	11.7
500	288	London Elect	479	-1	16.8	4.7	9.2
547	324	Manweb	539	...	18.2	4.5	7.8
513½	287	Midlands Elec	501	...	17.2	4.6	10.5
545	295	Northern Elec	531	-4	18.5	4.7	7.9
544	298	Norweb	527	-5	17.7	4.5	9.9
252½	142	Scottish Power	239½	+½	10.1	4.4	11.5
525	297	Seeboard	510	-1	17.2	4.5	9.2
565	313	Sth Wales	543	-5	19.4	4.8	8.6
530	293	Sth Western	511	-1	17.4	4.5	9.2
491	270	Southern Elec	481	-3	16.6	4.6	9.5
545	331	Yorkshire Elec	540	-1	17.7	4.4	10.0
343	188	National Power	324	+2	9.1	3.7	10.7
343	196	PowerGen	326	+1	9.2	3.8	10.1

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	26	Aitken Home	56	...	0.5	...	35.8
72	37½	BWD a	72 †	...	...	5.9	11.2
124	25	Baltic Plc	65 †	...	1.0	2.1	-
453	299	Caledonia	435	...	14.4	4.4	16.7
1950	1050	Camellia	1500	...	27.0	2.4	12.6
290	203	Candover	250	-3	10.2	5.6	-
91	48	Flexitech a	77	...	...	...	7.6
240	103	Govett	240 †	+3	...	6.9	6.9
140	97	Ivory Sime	139	...	...	6.1	14.6
6½	3½	LIT	6½	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12 #	...	...	...	0.6
185	110	Lon Forfaiting a	180 †	...	...	6.4	12.7
62	10	Manakin	54 †	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	Nat Home Loan	10½	...	...	...	...
47	24	Newmarket	44	...	...	...	...
260	179	Rathbone Brs	260	...	...	2.6	19.4
22	9½	Rutland Tst	21½	-½	0.8	5.1	-
300	120	S & U	293	...	...	3.7	10.5
67	34	Singer & Fried	64	...	2.6	5.6	-
938	575	Sotheby's	900	...	...	4.6	...
99	73	SIP Capital	94	-1	3.0	4.3	17.0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1950	1043½	Amer Express	1943¾	+18½	...	...	...
234	149	Electra	219	...	6.7	4.1	29.9
978	535	Henderson Ad	930	...	41.0	5.9	20.5
120	50	Invesco MIM	113	...	...	3.5	16.6
223	121	Jardine Strat	180	+2	...	4.4	8.1
194	107½	MAI	181	...	6.0	4.5	13.0
469	244	MAM	441	...	11.5	3.5	17.6
795	460	M & G	764	-2	20.0	3.5	20.3
183	81	Smith New Crt	182	...	4.5	3.3	7.2
98	57	Sterling Tst a	97 #	...	...	...	8.5
78	35	Trio Hldgs	66½	-1½	...	6.0	...

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
515	362	AB Food	483	...	14.0	3.9	11.1
77½	21½	ASDA Group	71½	...	...	3.0	21.0
225	75	Acatos & Hutch	200	-2	6.5	4.3	11.5
83	31	Albert Fisher	73	...	3.7	6.8	12.2
432	273	Argyll	344	+1	9.7	3.8	13.5
51	11	Ashley Group	13	-½	0.7	7.7	...
147	103	Assoc Fisheries	131	...	7.0	7.1	34.2
200	143	Banks (S C)	200	...	9.2	5.5	10.0
350	300	Barr (AG)	349	...	6.5	2.5	17.6
117	74	Bensons Crsp a	81	...	...	4.7	8.6
137½	50	Berisford Intl	130	-1	...	...	...
490	312	Booker	439	-5	21.7	6.6	13.4
50	28	Borthwicks	47	...	1.1	3.1	32.8
478	334	Brake Bros	476	...	5.7	1.6	19.9
51	31	Budgen	44	...	...	...	15.0
511	412	Cadbury-Schw	490 †	+8	...	3.6	18.2
107	64	Carrs Milling	84	...	3.9	6.2	16.8
256	105	Clifford Fd 'A'	256	...	11.5	6.0	12.1
188	140	Cranswick a	188	...	...	5.3	13.9
38	8	Cullens	17½	...	0.5	3.8	9.4
435	250	Dalepak	264	-11	6.0	3.0	11.9
491	352	Dalgety	473	-5	19.5	5.6	13.5
54	27	Daniels S	40	...	0.2	0.8	...
134	92½	Everest	134	...	...	3.5	18.4
295	234	Farepak a	288	...	...	2.3	20.4
16	3	Farringford	8½	...	...	...	...
92	53	Finlay (James)	82	-2	4.1	6.7	15.4
95	68	Fyffes	88	-2	...	1.8	14.6
483	249	Geest	454	-4	8.1	2.4	-
12	5	Global a	11½	...	...	6.0	-
49	34	Grand Central	43	...	1.1	3.6	...
189	81	Hazlewood Fds	177	-1	6.1	4.6	10.7
200	68	Hillsdown	154½	-2½	...	7.9	11.6
61	27	Hunter Saphir	43	...	2.5	...	...
750	412	Iceland Frozen	742	-2	...	1.8	17.5
142	103	JLI Group	123	-2	4.5	4.9	17.7
853	514	Kwik Save	783	-19	16.0	2.7	16.4
286½	169	Low (Wm)	242	+1	8.4	4.6	11.7
74	29	Matthews (B)	52	+1	2.2	5.9	-
33	9	Merchant Retail	15½	...	1.1	10.0	37.3
177	83½	Morrison (W)	166	-1	...	0.5	25.0
538	318	Nichols (JN)	503	-10	13.6	3.5	-
317½	215	Nthn Foods	277	+5	...	3.8	15.3
48	11	Nthmbrn Fn a	16	...	...	...	6.7
229	132	Nurdin Peack	227	+1	5.5	3.3	15.4
241	78½	Park Foods	222	+1	3.2	1.9	26.5
155	45	Perkins Food	111	-3	4.4	5.4	-
96½	21	PizzaExpress	72	...	...	0.9	41.4
301	130	RHM	275	...	...	6.7	14.0
3½	1½	Regina Hlth a	2½	...	...	...	...
584	337	Sainsbury J	505	-2	4.7	2.3	18.5
68	33	Sentry Farm a	63	...	...	2.2	14.4
340	175	Sims Food	195	...	11.2	7.7	10.5
443	285	Tate & Lyle	417	-5	12.0	3.9	15.3
296	194½	Tesco	233	-4	8.6	3.6	11.1
211	152	Thorntons	191 †	...	3.6	2.5	17.8
163	85	Treats a	154	+2	...	3.0	17.0
373	192	Unigate	372	+1	15.3	5.5	13.3
440	222	Utd Biscuits	408	-1	...	5.1	20.6
25	12	Usborne	23	...	0.4	2.3	14.1
357	205	Watson & Phil	327	...	13.5	5.4	17.1

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
25	16	Abrdn Stk Ha	16	...	...	...	...
99	52	Cty Centre Rest	82	...	1.4	2.4	23.0
262	112	Forte	198	-1	9.5	6.1	...
240	94	Friendly Hotels	169	-2	5.5	4.3	13.6
12	5	Harmony Leis a	7	...	...	...	...
114	97	Jurys Hotel	100	...	...	6.1	11.5
267	126	Ladbroke	199	-2	...	7.7	25.4
73	37½	Mandarin Orntl	64	-2	...	5.5	-
92	25	Queens Moat	45	-1	2.5	5.5	1.0
118	51½	-do- 7½% cnpr	85	-1½	7.5	11.5	...
2½	½	Regal Hotels a	1½	...	...	...	...
89½	16	Resort Hotels	46	...	3.4	10.0	9.0
750	420	Savoy Hotel 'A'	713	...	7.0	1.3	...
54	23	Stakis	50	-2	...	1.2	...

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
224	135	AAF Inds	204	-5	...	4.9	10.7
618	460	AAH	525	...	16.5	4.2	16.7
205	132	AIM	168	...	6.5	5.9	9.2
136	76	APV	112	...	5.4	6.4	20.2
182	52	ASW	176 †	-1	6.0	4.5	...
155	88	Adwest	151	...	7.0	6.2	21.5
33	5	Aerospace Eng	17½	...	1.0	...	8.2
468	253	Alexprung	447	-7	7.5	2.2	12.4
133	38	Alcndra W	121	-1	3.6	4.0	65.4
22	8	Allied Radio	9	...	...	...	...
525	358	Alumasc	525	...	11.6	2.8	16.6
62	9	Alvis	32	...	1.0	4.2	6.5
420	308	Amber Ind	421	...	17.0	5.4	11.3
39	13	Amberley Gp a	31	...	...	4.3	...
180	125	Andrews Sykes	144	...	4.4	4.1	...
893	503	Anglogaza	833	...	...	2.4	-
50½	29½	Armour	44	...	1.4	4.5	12.9
170	123	Ash & Lacy	170	...	6.4	5.1	-
7½	1½	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	0.0	2.1	...
555	300	Avon Rubber	544	...	16.5	4.0	21.2
206	103	Assoc Nursgs	303	...	...	...	7.8
880	445	Atlas Equipt a	685	...	...	1.1	14.1
68	30	Ayrshire Metal	48	...	...	...	...
177	107	BBA	166 †	-4	7.5	6.2	-
53	24	BLP Groupe	28	...	...	...	...
417	40	BM Gp	45	-3	5.9	14.8	1.0
774	583	BOC	735	+6	23.2	4.2	16.1
81	51½	BSG	69	-8	3.2	6.3	-
422	266	BSS Group	409	-2	...	5.6	16.5
614	381	BTR	592 †	-3	...	4.1	24.4
221	115	BWT	214	+1	6.7	4.2	22.4
70	26½	Babcock	47½	...	3.1	...	9.4
7½	3½	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
296	193	Baird (Wm)	296	+1	8.0	4.1	18.4
707½	557	Barlow Rand	637½	...	...	6.0	3.3
45	7	Barron (H)	7 #	...	2.0	...	16.2
63	37	Baynes (Charles)	57	...	1.4	3.4	-
35	5	Beanlord	7½	...	1.4	...	...
18	5	Beckenham a	7½	...	...	8.9	...
31	10	Bedford (W) a	26	...	...	...	...
27½	13	Benson Group	26	...	0.1	0.6	22.2
707	444	Bespak	905	-2	9.0	1.3	32.0
191	109	Bibby (J)	128	...	9.7	10.7	7.1
230	84	Bilam (J)	213	...	5.0	3.2	-
55	28	Bilston Brnsen a	44	...	...	...	...
77½	3½	Bimec Ind	9	...	0.6	...	...
43	20	Black Arrow	37	...	2.1	8.5	7.9
1½	¼	Black & Edgin a	1	...	...	...	...
183	103	Black (Peter)	180 †	...	2.9	2.2	18.6
194	32	Bluebird Toys a	194	+4	...	3.2	-
539	361	Bodycote	522	+1	9.2	2.3	18.6
571	398	Boots	508	-10	12.4	3.3	19.1
84	40	Booth Inds	48	...	3.2	8.9	5.0
517	298	Bowater	491	+1	11.5	3.2	19.1
1682	906	Bowater Inc	1626 †	+13	...	...	...
229	126	Boxmore Inds a	229	...	...	3.0	22.1
20	13	Brasway	17½	...	0.5	5.7	17.4
274	186	Brammer	256	...	13.0	6.8	17.6
33	11	Bridgend Gp	14½	...	1.2	...	6.5
103	34	Bridon	96	...	4.0	5.7	-
82	38	Bridport-Gndry	65	...	4.1	8.4	12.2
40	23	Brierley Inv	35 †	+1	...	9.1	8.6
543	288	Br Bldg & Eng	298	...	...	1.1	...
59	38	Br Bloodstock a	58	...	...	...	...
482	339½	Br Polythene	482	...	...	2.8	-
91	47½	Br Steel	84	-½	...	1.6	80.0
120	88	Br Syphon	120	...	3.0	3.3	33.6
14½	9	Br Thornton	13½	+1	...	2.5	...
294	212	Br Vita	243	...	7.1	4.0	14.7
13	5½	Britton Grp	10½	-½	0.0	0.4	...
730	479	Broken Hill	696	-2	...	3.8	30.9
128½	67	Bromsgrve Ind	101	-1	4.0	5.3	13.9
15	3	Brooke Tool	6½	...	...	...	...
83	38	Brown & Tawse	61	+4	4.7	...	...
174	63	Bullough	98	...	6.0	8.2	10.8
37	13	Business Tech a	18	...	...	...	21.7
35	12	CI Group	28	...	2.0	9.8	11.5
66	14	Campbell & Arm	31	...	2.0	...	...
30	2	Cannon St	10½	-½	3.3	...	...
240	161	Cape	240	...	10.5	5.8	15.3
209	130	Carclo Eng	209	...	7.8	5.0	17.6
2888	1675	Carnaud Mtl	2875	+75	...	3.1	8.9
80	55	Cassidy Bros a	73	...	...	4.4	8.1
195	118	Castings	166	...	4.0	3.3	11.8
145	90	Chamberlin Hill	145	...	6.0	5.5	8.7
707	467	Charter Cons	671	+3	21.5	4.3	16.1
270	176	Chemring	255	...	...	4.3	15.4
120	74	Chieftain Gp a	74	...	5.1	9.6	15.2
39	18	Chillington	20	-1	0.5	3.3	...
187	90	Christies Int	174 †	-1	1.5	1.1	-
61	33	Claybithe	59	...	2.5	5.6	...
140	80	Clayton Son	85	...	3.0	4.7	...
7	¾	Co Designers a	7 #	...	0.2	...	...
400	255	Cohen (A)	375	...	10.0	...	...
247	188	Community H	199	...	6.5	4.4	12.4
346	12½	Concentric	243	-2	...	3.1	19.5
335	88	Cook (Wm)	160	-1	10.0	...	10.7
206½	100	Cookson	195	-1	...	4.2	-
60	35	Copymore a	45	...	...	8.0	8.8
240	176	Crowll Pkr 'A'	193 †	...	5.7	3.9	16.5
178	118	Cosalt	149	...	10.7	9.6	22.7
250	180	Creighton Nta	190	-3	...	4.9	13.8
36	20	CressaCare	31	...	0.5	2.2	-
3456½	1456½	Dana	3075 †	+12½	...	...	...
685	168	Danka Bs Sys	608	-6	3.7	0.8	18.7
16	5	Davies (DT) a	16	...	...	...	...
707	474	De La Rue	674	+7	15.0	3.0	20.6
25	10	Dinkie Heel	23	...	0.9	5.5	11.0
481	263	Diploma	480	...	9.7	2.7	25.0
88	43	Dobson Park	59	...	5.7	13.0	10.6
104	90	Dyson (R&J)	97	...	5.0	6.9	13.9
66	54	-do- 'A'	64	...	5.0	10.4	9.2
15	8	EFG a	17	...	...	...	...
430	395	EIS	409	...	11.7	3.6	15.2
29	9½	EIT Gp a	9½	...	...	...	...
26	16	Elbief	25	...	...	...	...
57	23	Eleco	35	...	3.3	...	14.7
2700	1550	Electrolux 'B'	2012½	-37½	...	2.8	-
480	45	Elliott (B)	60	...	...	...	...
603	330	Eng China Cl	475	...	20.0	5.8	-
2225	900	Ericsson 'B'	2150	+25	...	1.4	-
91	43	Erskine Hse	43	...	6.6	20.6	4.5
101	29	Eurocopy	42	...	1.6	5.1	16.3
158	29	Expamet	60	...	3.2	7.4	-
635	302	Fairey Group	633	...	10.2	2.2	-
108	61	Fenner	87	...	4.2	6.4	16.4
61	18	Ferraris Group a	54	...	...	3.5	12.3
1½	¼	Ferromet a	1½	...	...	...	...
51	19	Ferrum	24	...	2.5	14.7	-
81	33	Fife Indmar	33	...	4.9	...	4.4
403	143	Fisons	201	-3	...	5.9	31.0
61	28	Fitzwilton	35	...	...	14.5	...
255	200	Flogas	240	...	...	4.2	9.9
56	39	Folkes Group nv	42	...	2.3	7.5	8.5
74	42	French (Thomas)	68	...	3.6	7.1	34.1
198½	96	Frost Group	185	+2	...	0.5	35.8
115	63	GEI Intl	82	-1	7.3	11.9	16.9
489	281	GKN	468 †	...	...	5.8	20.0
93	40	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	6.0	...
130	84	Garton Eng	87	...	7.0	...	...
162	93	Gestetner	122	-1	8.2	9.0	5.3
58	21	Gieves	26	...	...	...	18.8
943	590	Glaxo	597	-17	17.0	3.8	16.5
26	14	Glenchewton	26	...	...	...	...
293	183	Glynwed	287	...	11.6	5.6	-
97	63	Goode Durrant	86	...	5.4	8.4	18.2
199	79	Grampian Hd	115	-1	5.5	6.4	14.9
400	192	Granada	391	+6	7.7	2.6	20.8
328	245	Great Ulrsn a	328	...	...	4.1	14.1
125	75	Green (Ernst) a	80	...	...	12.1	30.7
11	6	Greenacre a	10	...	...	3.3	10.7
20	6	Guardian Grp a	13	...	...	...	...
125½	23	Haden MacLn	42½	...	2.0	6.4	-
85	43	Hadleigh Inds a	67	...	...	...	...
188	97	Hall Eng	188	...	8.6	6.3	-
258	148	Halma	257	...	2.2	1.1	31.8
55	29	Harrington Ind	35	...	2.3	...	9.5
265½	184½	Hanson	237	-½	...	6.4	12.1
243	138	Harris (Philip)	242	...	6.2	3.4	16.9
186	104	Harrison Crsfd	175	-1	9.0	6.9	30.2
99	32	Havelock Euro	49	...	1.5	...	...
4½	1	Hawthorn Les a	1½	...	...	...	...
57	17	Hay (Norman)	41	...	1.1	...	...
28	15	Headlam	25	...	0.7	3.7	13.2
437	211	Hepworth	325	+1	14.8	6.1	13.9
209	116	Hewitt (J)	209	+4	3.0	1.9	16.2
35	15	High-Point	33	...	1.3	...	...
147	89	Hill & Smith	132	...	6.0	6.1	17.2
10	3	Hobson a	9	...	...	...	...
104	69	Holders Tech a	104	...	...	8.0	-
50	24	Hopkinsons	36	...	3.7	...	10.4
232	138	Hornby a	164	...	...	7.7	-
33	6	Hospital Crp	6	-1	...	17.8	1.6
69½	30½	Howden	61	...	...	4.7	9.4
233	149	Hunting	238	...	10.0	5.6	18.5
950	285	Huntigh Tec a	863	...	...	0.7	31.8
306	210	IMI	270	+3	10.0	5.0	-
107	49	ISA Intl	107	+2	1.5	1.9	-
205	127	Intercare Gp a	187	-2	...	1.9	19.8
266	175	Isotron	253 †	...	3.9	2.1	16.2
498	259	Jardine Math	417	+8	...	3.1	-
557	317	Johnson Matth	462	-4	9.6	2.8	19.2
73	41	Johnson & FB	54	...	3.0	7.4	16.7
207	104	Johnston	111	...	4.0	...	52.3
62	14	Jones Stripman	30	...	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	20	...	1.5	10.0	...
49	26	Kalamazoo	42	...	...	...	34.6
154	73	Kalon	152 †	...	3.2	2.8	-
458	253	Kelsey Ind	284	...	13.0	6.1	...
550	450	Kershaw (A)	524	...	27.0	6.9	27.2
108	44	Kleeneze	104	...	...	...	...
90	30	LGW a	90	+1	...	1.7	31.3
363	229	Laird	276	+2	...	4.9	33.4
136	65	Lee (Arthur)	128	+3	5.9	6.1	54.4
13½	98	Lilleshall	127 †	...	4.2	4.5	15.7
146	71	Lincat a	146	+18	...	4.7	12.4
19	3	Lincoln Hse a	17½	...	...	...	14.4
128	61	Linread	102	...	3.5	...	14.4
193	120	Linton Park	193	...	13.0	9.0	33.9
36	10½	Lionheart	11½	...	0.2	2.3	...
19½	10	Locker (T) A	16½	...	1.0	8.1	52.0
316	157½	Lon Intl	210	...	9.4	6.0	14.3
190	57	Lonrho	81	-1	...	6.6	...
357	219	Low & Bonar	355	...	...	3.6	-
343	300	MB-Caradon	317	-5	8.5	3.6	24.9
169½	105	-do- pf	166	-1½	7.2	5.9	...
69	12	ML Hldgs	34	-1	1.8	...	23.2
39	19	MS Intl	34	...	2.5	9.8	47.5
58	31	MY Holdings	42	...	...	3.2	12.8
323	171	Macfarlane	276	...	4.2	2.0	26.1
430	270	McKechnie	425	...	14.7	4.6	22.2
119	72	McLeod Russel	93	+2	6.0	8.6	11.4
12½	6½	Maddox	7½	...	...	...	...
93	55	Magnolia	69	...	5.4	...	48.3
99	66	Mang Bronze	85	+7	1.0	1.6	...
74½	15	Marling	27½	-1	0.3	...	...
179	87	Mayborn a	134	+1	...	3.9	-
51	37	Mayflower	47	...	...	1.1	23.2
301	150	Medeva	222 †	-7	2.2	1.4	17.2
106	56	Meggitt	94	...	3.6	5.1	14.0
130	90	Metalrax	118	-5	4.0	4.6	-
137	68	Metsec a	75	...	...	6.7	...
94	37	Midsteers	94	-1	...	7.4	9.8
22½	14	Mining & Alld	17½	-½	0.5	3.8	...
485	295	Molins	488	+5	14.0	3.9	-
345	229	Morgan Crble	344	-1	12.6	4.0	16.8
149	75	Morris Ashby a	135	...	...	4.6	11.7
31	14	Neepsend	22	...	1.5	...	...
75	34	Nestor-BNA	58	+1	3.1	7.2	9.4
144	64	Neuc Gp	144	...	3.5	3.2	17.6
164	62	Newmrs	148	+2	7.0	6.3	25.4
41	26	Novo Group	40	...	...	1.0	...
485	310	Nu-Swift	311	...	...	8.6	8.6
53	31	Office Elec Mac	47	...	0.1	0.3	...
40	10	OMI Intl	39½	...	1.7	7.7	...
156	133	PCT a	135	...	...	7.0	...
51	47	Pacer Systems a	48	...	...	7.9	-
147	94	Parkland	119	-1	3.5	3.8	-
390	260	Photo-Me	364	...	4.4	1.6	18.6
109	67	P'Dington	118	+2	6.0	6.8	42.9
34	10	Platon a	31	...	...	...	...
79	39	Plantsbrook	73	...	3.0	5.5	-
148	93	Polypipe	134	-3	1.9	2.0	19.3
517	335	Portals	502	-1	14.5	3.9	-
65	18	Porter Chadburn	20	+1	2.5	16.7	4.9
14	1½	Porth Gp a	7½	...	...	...	...
378	304	Powerscreen	363	-6	6.0	2.2	20.5
21	14½	Prospect Inds	18	...	0.7	5.0	9.0
54	16	RPS Group a	53	...	...	3.7	11.5
100	70	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
148	31	Ramco Oils a	132	+6	...	2.0	...
772	444	Rank Org	647½	-1½	31.0	6.4	17.7
39	6	Ransomes	29	...	...	...	...
709	523	Reckitt Colm	608	+3	15.1	3.3	14.3
100	40	Record	76	...	3.6	6.5	-
9½	2½	Reece	3½	...	...	...	12.2
169	105	Relyon	149	+7	4.9	4.5	-
313	248	Renishaw	280 †	...	6.5	3.1	21.4
68	44	Renold	59	...	1.0	2.3	...
1438	982	Reuters	1389 †	+4	22.2	2.1	22.5
37	22½	Rexmore	27½	...	1.7	8.5	6.8
120	58	Ricardo Group	119	...	5.7	6.5	32.9
81	50	Richard (Leics)	61	...	4.4	9.6	6.1
77	47	Richardson West	77	+8	3.0	5.3	-
130	97	Ropner	120	...	8.2	8.9	5.0
122	85	-do- 'A'	110	...	8.2	10.0	7.9
47½	22	Ross Gp	33	...	0.4	1.8	18.1
448	258	Rotork	448	...	11.1	3.4	-
135	85	Rubicon	125	+3	...	1.6	...
100	49	Russell (A)	49	...	2.1	5.8	25.0
24	14	SEP Indl	24	+1	0.6	3.7	-
1200	612½	SKF 'B'	675	-12½	...	5.9	...
272	107	Sanderson Elec	249	-2	9.0	4.8	10.6
56	32	Savage a	50 †	...	...	0.7	65.0
45	29	Saville Grdn (J)	41	...	2.2	7.2	16.2
248	158	Scapa	239	-1	5.3	3.0	19.5
245	188	Scholl	199	-1	8.0	4.0	14.3
17	2½	Scot Heritable	3	...	...	...	...
990	648	Securicor	958	-2	2.6	0.4	36.5
666	460	-do- 'A'	600	-10	3.6	0.6	-
585	367	Security Serv	500	-8	5.0	1.3	24.7
94	59½	Senior Eng	93	...	3.1	4.5	15.4
361	259½	Setna Health	325	...	...	2.1	20.8
72	42	Sheldon Jones a	45	...	...	...	...
146	80	Shiloh	94	...	2.7	3.9	25.5
361	223	Siebe	310	...	10.0	4.3	14.4
501	259½	Siebe	449	-11	...	2.7	18.9
305	188	Silentnight	295	...	8.0	3.6	16.4
121	68	Sime Darby	105	-3	...	4.2	12.8
304	69	Simon Eng	104	-5	5.0	6.4	-
290	196	Sinclair (Wm)	256 †	...	7.0	3.6	16.5
53	22	Six Hundred	42	...	2.5	7.1	...
171	127	Smith & Neph	159½	+1	...	4.0	20.4
966	398½	Smithkline	416	-12½	...	2.8	16.3
503	353	Smthkline Uts	363	-11	...	3.7	14.3
394	255	Smiths Ind	336	-1	11.2	4.5	13.7
140	76	Spin Bus	82	...	3.3	5.5	7.8
370	265	Spandex a	370	...	...	2.4	-
410	230	Spear (JW)	365	...	14.0	5.3	-
348	231	Spirax-Sarco	348	...	9.0	3.4	20.8
181	55	Spring Ram	70	+2	0.3	0.7	-
270	158	Staveley	251	-1	8.2	4.4	14.3
147	102	Sterling Ind	145	...	5.6	5.1	18.2
17½	11	Stonehill	14	...	...	...	...
154	73	Suter	129	-4	8.8	4.5	-
319	160	Swire Pacific 'A'	287	+8	...	3.1	-
19	5	Sycamore	6½	-½	...	...	...
300	232	Syltone	257	...	...	9.4	4.9	11.8
198	98	T & N	186	...	10.8	8.1	-
372	251	TI	302 †	-3	...	4.7	18.6
23	10	TLS Range a	13	...	...	5.1	...
275	167	TT Group	254	-1	6.8	3.2	-
249	170	Takare	242	...	1.8	1.0	-
815	405	Takeda Chem	764	+9	...	0.6	20.3
44½	19	Tex Hldgs	31	...	...	...	...
79	33	Tinsley (E) a	72	...	...	9.6	8.4
205	85	Titon a	205	+1	...	2.3	17.6
271	195	Tomkins	250	-4	...	3.4	17.6
152	36	Trafalgar H	77	+1½	...	5.6	5.6
159½	30½	-do- 'A'	75	+1½	...	...	...
579	266½	Transfer Tech	564	-1	16.0	3.8	-
190	127½	Triplex Lloyd	188	-1	7.0	5.0	17.2
253	165	UniChem	244	+½	5.6	3.1	-
320	250	Unidare	305 †	...	...	7.0	-
24	8½	Unigroup	23	-½	...	...	...
1249	866	Unilever	1190	-10	21.3	2.4	-
8112½	5375	Unilever (NV)	7687½	-100	...	2.7	12.4
645	285	VSEL	645	+60	25.0	5.2	7.4
15	2½	Vetson	7½	...	...	...	...
179½	57	Vickers	120	-5	...	1.7	...
409	260	Victaulic	337	-2	7.8	3.1	-
364	231	Vinten	363	...	7.0	2.6	-
522	240	Vosper Thorny	522	+2	13.1	3.3	12.6
70	36½	WSP Hldgs	45	+2	2.9	8.8	-
468	340	Wagon Ind	433	...	...	2.2	16.8
78	45	Walker Greenbk	75	...	3.1	5.5	17.9
236	110	Wassall	233	+1	2.5	1.4	-
34	15	Watford Wigwd	31	-1	...	...	...
675	435	Weir	649	+1	11.8	2.5	-
1174	777	Wellcome	890	-20	13.0	1.9	24.6
39	22½	Wellman	23	...	2.2	...	8.6
490	390	Whatman	490	...	8.7	2.4	17.7
339	201	Whessoe	320	...	...	3.3	12.4
34	4	Whewey	9½	...	...	1.0	14.4
143	15	Whitecroft	43	...	4.0	...	4.1
12	3	Widney	7½	...	...	...	3.7
197	44	Wilkes (James)	68	-4	10.0	...	3.7
379	222	Williams Hldg	344	-4	12.5	3.0	17.6
26½	8½	Wilshaw	25	-1	0.4	2.1	20.7
630	287	Wolseley	595	-9	12.5	2.8	20.5
150	100	Wood (Arthur)	125	...	1.5	1.6	-
80	35	Wyko	36	+1	2.8	...	20.6
70	38	Young (H)	54	...	3.0	7.4	19.8

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1025	Alex & Alex	1662½	-25	...	4.1	...
2275	1125	Am Gen	2062½	-30	...	3.7	...
66	27	Archer (AJ)	37	...	4.4	15.9	18.0
168	83	Bradstock	144	+2	5.1	4.7	17.8
1475	762	Britannic	1443	-32	33.5	3.1	-
641	389	Com Union	598	-5	...	5.4	...
1450	900	Dom & Gen	1450	...	...	1.7	23.8
31	18	FAI	20	...	...	...	...
612	356	Gen Accident	580	-7	26.7	6.3	...
195	108	GRE	181 †	-4	7.0	5.2	...
477	212	Heath C E	360	+1	16.0	5.9	21.2
189	104	Hogg Gp	185	-2	8.1	5.9	11.3
208	102	JIB Group	195	...	7.5	5.3	19.2
493	287	Legal & Gen	475	-8	...	5.5	64.9
1026	557	Liberty Life	926	-11	...	3.1	-
465	295	Lloyds Abbey	429	-4	17.3	5.4	15.4
295	160	Lloyd Thomp	287	-3	5.6	2.6	21.1
368	203	Londn & Man	364	...	13.5	5.0	28.0
362	224	Lowndes Lmb	344	-1	12.6	4.9	13.7
6743½	3931½	Marsh McLn	6356½	+31½	...	2.9	...
154	92	Orion	92	-1	...	7.2	6.8
81	30	PWS	66	...	4.0	8.1	-
342	199	Prudential	329	...	...	4.9	21.4
1138	564	Refuge	1103 †	-27	31.5	3.8	-
321	118	Royal	313	-5	5.0	2.1	...
240	100	Sedgwick	170	-4	6.0	4.7	20.5
321	162	Steel Burrill	261	+10	13.2	7.0	-
232	53	Sturge Hldgs	63	...	8.2	17.5	6.4
362	214	Sun Alliance	344	-2	14.2	5.5	...
61	20	Trade Indemnity	57	...	...	...	...
284	165	Transatlantic	284	...	12.0	5.6	-
773	305	Utd Friendly	703	-12	12.3	2.3	35.7
274	144	Willis Corroon	200 †	+2	...	4.4	-
21	13½	Windsor	16½	...	...	...	13.0

WHETHER YOU'RE BUYING OR SELLING A SECOND HAND POLICY

CONTACT

S.E.C.

WE ARE THE LEADING MARKET MAKER OF SECONDHAND WITH PROFIT ENDOWMENT AND WHOLE LIFE POLICIES.
APPLAUDED THROUGHOUT THE UK FOR OUR SPEED AND EFFICIENCY OUR OFFERS ARE AMONG THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AVAILABLE.
WE PROVIDE A SAME DAY TELEPHONE QUOTATION SERVICE.

CALL US ON 081-207-1666
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS.

SECURITISED ENDOWMENT CONTRACTS PLC (FIMBRA)

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1708	1218	Alliance	1687	+4	45.0	3.6	-
260	152	Amer Trust	249	...	4.9	2.7	51.0
343	229	Ang & O'seas	332	-2	6.8	2.8	42.2
136½	98½	BZW Conv	132	...	7.8	8.0	15.3
158	106	Bankers	159½	+½	3.4	3.0	42.5
298	206	Baring Tribne	280	...	6.4	3.1	44.3
172	116	Berry Starq	143	...	2.0	1.9	48.3
106½	71½	Br Assets	101	+½	...	5.7	24.7
65	46½	Br Empire Sec	64½	...	0.8	1.8	65.2
17	8½	-do- Wnts	16	...	...	...	...
173	123	Br Inv	165	...	4.5	3.6	41.4
166	125	Contl Asset	157	-1	2.4	2.0	52.2
230	143	Derby Inc	145	...	16.6	15.3	8.7
235	148	-do- Cap	200	...	...	...	...
119	65	Drayton	118	-1	0.7	0.8	...
99	59	-do- Inc Chip	69	-1	8.4	16.9	7.4
57	26	-do- Eng Intl	56	...	1.2	2.9	...
108	61	-do- Far East	105	-1	0.6	0.8	...
101	56	-do- Korea	99	...	...	...	...
631	473	Dunedin Inc G	600 †	-1	25.4	5.6	-
582	402	-do- Wrde	560	...	9.5	2.3	57.7
278	203	Dundee & Lon	260	...	12.0	6.2	24.0
61	36	EFM Inc Tst	48	...	4.8	13.9	8.4
54	40½	-do- Div Pf	52½	-½	...	...	...
274	199	Edinburgh	263	...	8.0	4.1	32.1
155	107	Electric Gen	152	...	3.1	2.7	48.4
97	65	English Scot	95	...	...	...	...
253	186	European Asset	244	...	...	3.1	-
104	68	Finsbury 'A'	89	...	3.0	4.5	28.6
290	162	Fleming Amer	273	+½	0.7	0.3	...
411	302	-do- Claver	408	-2	10.7	3.5	40.0
266	173	Do Contl	246	-2	2.8	1.5	...
169	110	-do- Entp	169	...	4.5	3.6	37.9
256	157	-do- F East	247	+1	1.5	0.8	...
306	198	-do- Fledg	304	...	3.0	1.3	...
116	81	-do- Hi Inc	110	...	5.8	7.0	18.7
180	100	-do- Japan	179	+1	0.3	0.3	...
271	193½	-do- Merc	257 †	+1	6.7	3.5	-
251	165½	-do- Overs	240	...	4.0	2.2	57.3
229	150	Foreign & Col	224 †	...	3.3	2.0	61.0
210	144	-do- Eurotk	195½	-3	1.2	0.8	...
107	71	-do- German	98	...	0.4	0.5	...
235	134	-do- Pacific	233	+3	1.7	1.0	...
137½	79	-do- Smaller	135	-½	...	1.3	68.6
205	121	GT Japan	198	+3	...	0.8	...
110	49	Genl Cons Cap	102	...	...	...	...
123½	96	-do- Inc	102	-1	...	11.0	10.5
145	96	Govett Am Smlr	133	...	...	...	...
232	128	-do- Oriental	226	+3	0.9	0.5	...
246	150	-do- Strategy	235	+2	6.7	3.8	32.4
373	265	Greenfriar	373	...	6.3	2.1	55.0
28	¼	Gresham House	8	...	...	...	...
53	31	Independent Inv	50½	...	0.5	1.3	79.6
134	98	Inv Cap	129½	+½	5.1	5.3	26.0
95	67	IHS UK Smlr	86	...	2.0	3.1	21.5
183	128	Kleinwort Chrt	173	...	5.0	3.9	33.7
203	134½	-do- O'seas	197	...	3.3	2.2	56.0
136	85	-do- Smlr	130	...	4.0	4.9	-
595	433	Law Debenture	594	...	18.2	4.3	-
171	133½	Majedie	171	...	...	3.7	33.1
269	176	Merchants	240	+2	10.6	0.0	-
5095½	2437½	Merrill Lynch	4662½	-75	...	...	...
410	296	Monks Inv Tst	411	-3	6.7	2.2	55.3
120	81	Mort Gren Inc	115	...	...	5.3	22.8
33	13	Do Warrants	32	...	...	...	...
47	33	Murray Euro	44	...	0.3	0.5	-
11	4½	Do Wts	9½	...	...	...	...
315	223	Murray Income	298	...	...	4.8	28.4
319	215	-do- Intl	302 †	...	11.4	5.0	-
312	213	-do- Small	300	-1	4.0	1.8	64.6
109	89	-do- S/C Inc	99	...	...	14.3	9.6
88	54	-do- S/C Cap	87	+1	...	...	...
3080	2280	-do- S/C Uts	2950	...	...	4.8	...
147½	113½	-do- S/C Df	145½	+½	...	...	...
260	189	-do- Vent	250	...	10.3	3.5	19.7
71	44½	New Frontier	68	...	0.2	0.5	...
105	61	Nthrop Inc	82	...	6.7	11.2	11.3
284	187	O'seas Inv Tst	284	+3	2.8	1.3	...
362	173	Pacific Assets	323 †	-1	1.1	0.5	-
264	80	Do Warrants	227	...	...	...	...
8200	5700	Personal Assets	8200	...	...	2.6	49.0
118	82	RIT Cap Ptnr	115	...	1.1	1.3	52.1
123	96	River & Merc	111	-1	9.2	11.1	11.1
398	273	Robeco	398	...	...	3.4	...
388	268	Rolinco	388	...	...	2.1	...
240	194	St Andrew Inv	238	...	7.5	4.2	-
148½	108	Scot American	142½	-1	4.3	4.1	30.1
945	429	Scot Asian	895	+2	...	...	...
73	49	-do- Eastern	71	...	1.5	2.9	-
201	147	Scottish	195½	...	4.6	3.2	48.1
201	135	-do- Mrge	188½	+½	3.9	2.8	44.4
79	48	-do- Value	78½	...	...	3.1	55.9
1503	1066	Second Allnce	1460	...	36.5	3.3	39.2
84½	61	Secs Tst of Scot	81	+½	3.2	5.3	27.0
130	78½	Selective Asset	127	...	1.2	1.3	45.7
21½	9½	Sphere Inv	19	...	...	19.2	5.4
139	76	TR Far East	133	...	4.5	4.5	28.2
140½	97½	TR City Of Lon	137½	...	4.7	4.8	28.0
141	70	TR Pacific	129 †	...	0.3	0.4	...
22	14½	TR Property	21	...	1.4	...	61.7
69	18	TR Tech Inv	59	-1	1.7	4.0	29.3
170	96	TR Smlr Cos	162½	+1½	3.7	3.0	47.6
315	226	Temple Bar	304	+3	13.2	5.8	22.9
90	51	Thrmtn Asian E	85	+1	0.5	0.8	...
66	39	Throgmorton	58	...	2.3	5.3	23.7
418	268	Throg Dual Cp	383	...	...	...	...
195	137	USDC Invest	188 †	...	4.5	3.2	34.6
90	58½	Value Inc Tst	89½	+½	...	5.3	23.7
622	483	Whitbread Inv	555	...	15.0	3.6	36.8
195	139	Witan	191	...	5.6	3.9	33.5

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
66½	2	Airbreak Leis	3½	...	...	...	0.7
345	172	Airtours	310	+2	7.2	3.1	11.0
86	17	Ald Leis	49	...	4.7	...	14.0
272	145	Anglia TV	272	+1	9.2	4.6	-
249	135	Barr & W 'A'	218	-22	10.0	6.3	-
1195	795	Boosey Hwks	1175	...	20.0	2.3	18.8
113	70	Border TV a	95	...	...	3.6	12.4
16½	4	Brent Walker	12½	...	...	...	...
15	2	Buckingham Int	5½	+½	...	...	...
448	200	Campari	245	...	...	6.0	6.7
226	126	Capital Radio	197	...	5.2	3.6	22.9
818	468	Carlton Comm	748	+27	17.0	3.0	22.1
223	120	Castle Comm a	195	...	...	6.0	17.3
1825	1050	Central TV	1790	-8	30.5	2.3	23.0
88	49	Chrysalis	73	...	...	...	...
610	405	Compass Gp	583	-7	12.3	2.8	16.6
350	218	Eurocamp	232	...	9.7	5.6	9.6
1693	673	Euro Disney	1068	+3	...	1.1	...
10	1	Euro Leisure	5½	...	...	...	11.2
36	11	Ex-Lands	19	-1	...	...	...
448	110	Fairline Boats	308	...	10.5	4.5	...
378	239	First Leisure	378	+5	6.1	2.2	26.2
515	250	GWR Gp a	510	+10	...	1.8	26.2
181	91	Grampian	171	...	5.5	4.3	12.0
8	5	Greenwich Comm a	5	...	...	...	...
92	13	HTV Group	38	...	3.3	...	...
208	30	Hi-Tec Sports	44	-4	5.5	...	2.8
18½	2½	Kunick	8	...	...	...	...
370	220	LWT CP	366	-½	5.9	2.2	17.8
397	280	Man Utd	397	+3	18.0	6.0	13.7
148	44½	Owners Abrd	123	...	3.5	3.8	9.9
66	19	The Pelican Gp	54	-1	...	2.5	18.6
130	50	Prism Leisure a	120	...	...	3.0	13.7
61	17	Quadrant Grp	17	...	4.0	...	2.6
319	274	Radio Clyde a	304	...	...	3.7	23.8
177	125	Ramsdens (H)	155	+7	...	3.9	20.6
502	202½	Scot TV	474	-5	...	2.3	30.5
66	40	Southern Radio	49	...	0.7	2.2	20.4
209	125	Stanley Leisure	205	...	...	2.7	17.3
13	4	Sunleigh a	5½	-½	...	...	...
195	135	Sunset & Vine	140	...	3.5	3.4	16.2
53	27	TSW	39 #	...	...	22.7	3.7
420	138	Tanjong	420	...	...	...	79.1
200	134	Thames TV	190	...	7.5	5.3	5.4
10½	1	Ticketing a	2½	...	...	...	...
118	75	Tottenham Hot	97	+2	...	...	3.1
78	38	Trans World a	69 †	+2	...	1.5	25.2
322	154	Ulster TV	322	+6	7.5	3.1	22.7
30	10	Wembley	18	...	1.8	...	...
31	4½	Whitegate	25	...	...	...	...
191½	110	Yorkshire TV	149	-1	12.0	10.7	4.5
136	80	Zetters Gp	105	...	8.0	10.2	10.6

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4112½	1800	Am Gold	3000	-46½	...	7.1	13.6
2237½	1000	Ang Am Coal	1200	...	...	8.5	5.1
2275	1012½	Ang Am	1537½	+37½	...	5.0	9.6
18½	7½	Anglo Pac Res a	17	...	...	...	...
110	33	Blyvoors	74	...	...	9.2	3.7
29½	11	Bracken	25½	...	...	...	1.4
566	208	Buffels	390	-6	...	11.4	8.5
4½	1½	Butte	1½	...	...	...	...
684	437	CRA	686	...	...	3.3	-
38	9	Cluff Res	12	-½	...	...	...
1662½	581½	De Beers	1012½	...	...	5.2	-
125	37½	Deelkraal	50	-3	...	12.6	2.6
46	7	Doornfontein	12	...	...	...	...
759	398	Driefontein	550	-3	...	6.6	9.3
375	120	Durban	194	...	...	...	...
121	39	E Rand Gold	76	-3	...	15.1	2.2
154	62	E Dagga	94	...	...	...	7.0
168	54	E Rand Prop	168	...	...	...	...
470	117	Elandsrand	211	...	...	6.4	4.4
539	272	FS Cons	330	-9	...	10.0	5.4
33	7	FS Dev	12	...	...	...	...
1491	606	GFSA	1062	-19	...	4.2	15.1
222	121	Gencor	148	...	...	6.7	11.5
45	29½	GM Kalgoorli	43½	-1½	...	3.4	10.0
16½	2	Greenwich R 'A'	12½	...	...	...	...
89	44	Grootvlei	76	...	...	15.3	-
368	78	Harmony	169	...	...	...	...
281½	87	Hartes	185	...	...	...	5.4
14	5	Inco a	10½	...	...	...	...
820	486	Impala Plat	707	+33	...	...	14.4
8	2½	Kenmare Res a	7	...	...	...	...
795	262	Kinross	539	...	...	10.4	5.5
624	203	Kloof	497	-12	...	4.0	7.6
60	21½	Leslie	49	...	...	9.4	4.4
71	12	Loraine	34	...	...	...	...
128	90½	MIM	111	-½	...	2.2	47.5
955	559	Minorco	932	+6	...	4.0	11.0
120	66	Nth Brkn Hill	118	+1	...	4.5	...
1201	598	Orange Free	1150	-34½	...	12.1	9.2
704	469	RTZ	677 †	+6	19.5	3.8	28.6
1287½	375	Rand Mines	500	...	...	13.0	2.1
250	75	Rand Min Prp	115	...	...	16.2	5.0
334	136	Randfontein	232	-9	...	7.6	3.6
221	106	Renison	157	-3	...	3.1	14.3
1312½	437½	Rustnbg	937½	+25	...	5.4	13.5
410	183	St Helena	342	-12	...	7.8	-
1287½	475	Southvaal	937½	...	...	6.8	14.5
80	17½	Stilfontein	50½	...	...	14.6	-
183	43	Unisel	101	...	...	3.3	9.0
4000	1900	Vaal Reefs	2887½	-62½	...	8.4	4.5
324	154	Welkom	205	-13	...	12.2	8.2
99½	26	Western Areas	54	+3½	...	...	...
2375	587½	Western Deep	1175	...	...	6.0	4.6
342	164	Wynn Mining	231	...	...	...	...
630	255	Winkels	548	...	...	2.0	4.1
84	16	Zambia Copper	71	-1	...	...	...
45	18	Zandpan	27	...	...	...	7.7

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
400	228	Abbey Panels	238	+5	...	...	...
125	90	Airflow Stream	125	...	0.1	0.1	18.8
123	56	Appleyard	111	...	7.8	9.4	...
268	130	Bletchley Mtr	262	...	8.2	7.3	14.7
147	115	Bostrom	145	...	6.0	5.5	39.4
329	100	Br Aerospace	226	-2	7.0	3.4	...
378	308	Callyns	308	-10	11.5	5.0	41.0
9½	3	Cloverdale	8½	...	...	...	...
139	95	Central Mtrs a	128	+1	...	4.2	32.5
48	15½	Cook (DC) a	20	...	...	...	...
226	99	Cowie (T)	207 †	...	6.2	4.0	15.8
133	75	Dag Motors	106	...	5.7	7.2	12.5
140	85	Davnprt Vern	140	...	4.0	3.8	17.3
264	130	ERF	204	...	4.0	...	...
137	68	European Mtr	95	...	...	2.1	...
316	167	Evans Halshaw	289	...	11.2	5.3	-
290	163	FR Group	273	-2	6.6	3.3	13.0
3581½	1500	Ford Motor	3562½	+31½	...	...	...
2875	1681½	General Mtr	2687½	-6½	...	1.9	...
53	35	Gowrings	45	...	2.0	5.9	...
123	43	Henlys	115	...	3.0	3.5	...
831	465	Honda Motor	802	-24	...	0.7	...
31	10	Jacks (Wm)	26	+1	...	...	...
95	49	Jessups	81	...	4.5	7.4	...
225	68	Kwik-Fit	116	+1	3.3	3.9	-
335	175	Lex Service	335	+16	10.6	4.3	-
128	74	Lookers	107 †	...	6.2	7.7	...
153	77	Lucas	138	-1	7.0	6.8	...
224½	163	Pendragon	265 †	...	...	3.4	-
175	103	Perry Gp	159	...	6.0	5.1	-
153	56	Quicks Group	151	...	4.5	4.0	-
176	89	Rolls-Royce	128	+1	5.0	5.3	...
160	99	Vardy (Reg)	129	...	4.0	4.2	19.7
170	93	Westland	160	-1	4.2	3.5	14.1

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
144	73	Adscene	133	...	4.0	4.0	14.2
390	315	Black (A&C)	325	...	13.0	5.3	19.4
608	398	Blenheim Gp	602	+3	...	2.0	-
330	248	Bristol	305	...	11.5	5.0	22.6
8350	5900	Daily Mail	8350	+75	130	2.1	18.8
8350	5800	Daily Mail 'A'	8325	+75	130	2.1	18.7
305	193	Dorling Kind	284	-41	...	1.5	25.1
365	224½	EMAP	342	...	...	2.9	22.5
983	533	Euromoney Pb	938	...	29.5	4.2	21.1
237	128	Harrington K	224	...	4.5	2.7	-
398	155	Haynes Pub	305 †	+1	6.0	2.6	13.1
247½	140	Headline	246	+1	10.0	1.6	27.3
183	105	Home Counts	140	...	8.2	7.9	26.4
6½	2	Intl Bus Comm	4½	...	...	...	...
14½	6½	Intl Cm & Data a	7½	...	...	...	...
430	285	Independent	428	...	...	4.5	15.4
526	289	Johnstne Press	526	+4	6.2	1.6	-
288	186	Metal Bulletn	284 †	...	8.0	3.8	20.1
125	49	Mirror Gp	101	+2	...	...	9.6
373	127½	News Corp	355 †	-4	...	0.3	22.3
209	64½	News Intl	209	...	...	0.6	14.2
457½	297	Pearson	379	-1	...	4.1	17.8
655	340	Portsmth Sund	648	+4	8.6	1.8	16.7
642	447	Reed Int	652	+4	...	3.5	-
146	61	Southnews	145	...	...	1.4	42.7
130	29	Sterling Pub a	118 †	...	...	2.8	38.9
368	224	Telegraph	335	-3	11.0	4.5	-
825	565	Thomson Corp	815	...	25.4	4.2	-
347	222	Trinity Intl	339	...	8.7	3.5	-
62	29	Unit Group a	34	...	...	...	...
573	323	Utd Nwspaprs	571	...	21.0	4.9	19.6

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
18½	6	Aberdeen Petr a	17½	+1	...	...	...
29½	11½	Aran Energy	23½	-½	...	...	...
68	23	Arcon Intl a	46	...	...	...	...
53	27	Aus Oil & Gas	49½	...	...	...	...
290	20	Aviva Pet	45	...	...	...	...
48	8	Beverley	10	...	...	...	...
195	105	Br Borneo	176	-1	7.1	5.5	-
311	223	British Gas	259½	-½	...	6.6	12.8
309½	182	Br Petroleum	299	-1	10.5	4.7	47.1
4½	1	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
741	460	Burmah Castrl	698	+10	24.0	4.6	18.0
75	21	Cairn Energy	45	-1	...	...	...
286	164	Calor Gp	286	+4	12.0	6.0	17.5
80	20	Clyde Pet	48½	-2½	...	...	...
35	13	Coplex Res	29	...	...	...	...
16½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	13½	...	...	...	...
509	297	Enterprise	502	...	...	4.3	37.7
103	25	Exp Co Louis	76	...	...	...	...
29½	14½	Fairhaven Intl	23½	...	...	...	...
69	34	Goal Pet	59½	+½	1.4	3.2	-
31	5	Gt Western Res	26	...	...	...	...
152	77	Hardy O & G	137	-2	1.0	1.0	43.0
29	7½	Kelt Energy	28	...	...	...	...
263	112	LASMO	173	-19	3.3	2.6	-
163	63	-do- Units	88	-5	9.4	18.1	...
51	11	Mid Scot Res a	21½	...	...	...	...
44	27	Mohamed	42½	-1	...	...	44.3
39½	5	New London	9½	...	...	...	...
39½	17	Nth Sea Assets	27	-3	0.7	3.7	7.1
37	25	Oil Search	30	-1	...	...	...
14½	8	Petrol	14	...	...	...	...
110	58	Pict Pet	102	...	...	...	...
31	10	Premier	28	...	...	...	14.2
198	40	Presidio	46	...	...	...	...
430	300	Ranger	302 †	-2	...	8.4	...
6000	4162½	Royal Dtch Fl	5850	-85	...	3.7	...
4312½	3025	Schlumberger	3875	-25	...	2.1	...
64	41	Seafield	62	...	...	...	...
605	435	Shell	569	+2	21.0	5.1	-
206	110	Sunrise Eng Sv	197	...	...	...	...
19	5½	Teredo a	5½	...	...	...	...
82	26	Triton Europe	28	...	...	...	6.3
10	6½	Villers Grp	7½	...	.1	...	...
172	131	Woodside	160	...	...	2.4	...

Portfolio Plus

© Times Newspapers Limited

DIVIDEND £2,000

Claims required for +46 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
303	168	API	286	-10	7.5	3.5	24.9
290	123½	Arjo Wiggins	179	+6	...	4.9	17.3
493	365	Abbott Mead	493	...	9.3	2.5	-
3	¼	Aegis Group	1½	...	...	...	...
128	13	Aegis Gp	18	...	5.8	...	6.0
212	105	Aspen Comms a	195	...	...	3.4	28.7
13	7	BBB Design a	10	...	...	...	...
341	180	Bemrose	328	...	12.7	4.8	16.6
60	16	Birkdale	20	...	0.2	1.3	16.9
138	80	Bunzl	134	+2	4.0	4.0	-
287	147	CIA Gp	285	...	...	2.1	-
239	55	Capital Inds	228	...	4.0	2.4	-
51	36	City of Lon a	48	-2	...	9.4	8.8
214	135	Cropper (Jmes)	202	...	3.0	2.0	23.0
41	6	Crown Comm a	6 #	...	...	...	...
73	30	Delyn Pckaging	63	...	1.4	3.1	12.5
149	78	Dolphin Pack	106	...	4.5	5.7	14.1
74½	42	Dudley Jenkins a	53	...	...	...	13.7
15	9½	Elswick	13½	+½	0.2	...	11.2
68	38	Fairway Group a	57	...	...	7.4	16.8
294	211	Ferguson Intl	294	...	12.5	5.7	17.0
140	65	Ferry Pick	105 †	...	7.5	9.5	-
106	25	Flobal a	91	...	...	0.6	22.7
48	8	Fitch	15	-1	...	...	1.7
71	47	Gibbon Lyons a	69	...	...	9.7	13.5
285	189½	Gold Greenlees	282	...	...	3.9	23.0
53	20	Goodhead	26	...	0.5	2.6	...
80	37½	Hunterprint	75	...	...	...	...
180	136	Intereurope	136 †	...	7.4	7.3	9.0
220	123	Jarvis Porter	219	...	4.4	2.7	23.9
37	9½	Lopex	21 †	+1	...	...	10.6
263	133	More O'Ferrall	248	+6	13.2	7.4	-
78	27	NMC Group	68	...	1.2	...	13.4
301	58	Osborne & Little	101	...	4.3	5.7	12.9
189	132	Quarto	181	...	5.2	5.1	9.5
346	231	St Ives Gp	346	...	5.2	2.0	23.6
245	115	Saatchi	186	...	...	...	...
754	380	Sappi	395	+8	...	10.5	7.0
19½	1½	Seril a	15½	...	...	...	...
43	3	Shandwick	21½	-1½	...	...	...
351	233	Smith David	333	+3	9.5	3.8	16.7
335	210	Smurfit (Jeff)	263	+8	...	0.6	9.1
263	171	Star-Plas	238	...	8.0	4.6	-
21½	10½	Taylor Nelson	21	+½	...	1.0	44.2
65	37	VTE a	51	...	...	8.9	14.5
98	26½	WPP	52 †	-1	...	2.6	...
195	48	Wace	81	-1	8.2	13.6	9.0
221	158	Waddington (J)	215	...	7.9	4.9	16.2
638	391	Wassough	638	...	11.5	2.4	-
6½	1½	Westport a	5½	...	...	...	18.8
39	12	Whitney Mck a	19	+½	...	...	...
75	51	Wood (SW)	65	...	0.2	0.5	...

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
86	28	Allied Lon	65	...	3.5	7.2	56.1
70	55	Arcadian	60	...	...	...	...
73	34	Asda	65	...	2.0	4.1	23.2
141	64	Avonside	117	...	4.0	4.6	-
2637½	1887½	BCE a	2462½	...	...	...	...
525	268	Bilton	523	...	18.0	4.6	18.9
45	23	Bourne End	25	...	1.0	5.3	...
176	108	Bradford	165	-2	4.4	3.6	15.0
26	11	Bredero	14	-5	...	...	1.3
277	110	Br Land	266	-3	6.3	3.2	24.5
198	108	Brixton	189	-1	8.1	5.7	14.4
57	44	Burford	54	...	1.1	2.9	-
140	88	Cap & Regnl a	140	+5	...	1.0	...
200	75	Cardiff Prop	125	...	2.4	2.6	...
433	103	Chesterfield	255	...	18.5	...	18.0
80	9	City Site Ests	30	...	1.4	...	...
40	8	Clarke Nickolls	16	...	0.3	...	3.9
32	8	Clayform	12	...	...	...	...
995	785	Daejan	995	...	25.0	3.4	15.5
4½	¼	Dares Estates	2½	...	...	...	...
88	30	Debenham Twsn	87	...	2.5	3.8	31.6
12	1	De Morgan	7	...	...	...	...
135	76	Dencora	89	+2	5.5	8.2	...
540	263	Derwent Hldgs	420	...	8.6	2.8	-
250	170	Estates Agency	210	...	3.0	1.9	19.3
98	6	Estates Gen	11	-1½	3.7	...	3.5
143	100	Evans Of Leeds	138	...	4.1	4.0	13.2
31	11	Five Oaks	20½	-½	...	...	...
55	28	Fletcher King	52	...	1.0	2.6	37.6
405	188	Frogmore	398	...	15.0	5.1	22.2
132	51	Grainger	132	...	5.2	5.3	29.5
182	84	Gt Portland	167	...	10.0	8.0	16.6
114	6½	Greycoat	19½	-1½	5.2	...	...
128	63	HK Land	113	+3	...	6.0	-
57	39	Hambro Cntyw	57	+6	...	...	...
588	180	Hammerson	388	-10	10.0	3.4	10.5
503	165	-do- 'A'	343	-9	10.0	3.9	16.5
164	60	Helical Bar	163	...	4.0	3.3	...
30	19	Hemingway	24	+1	...	...	...
175	83	Herring Baker	84	...	7.0	11.1	...
225	139	Jermyn	138	...	1.5	1.5	...
526	348	Land Sec	522	-3	21.7	5.6	15.8
88	63	Lon Merch Sec	88	...	3.8	5.8	14.0
3½	1½	Lon & Metro	3½	...	...	...	...
418	196	MEPC	397	-6	20.0	6.7	18.6
6½	3	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
145	76	McKay Secs	108	...	6.7	...	17.4
20	3	Markheath	6	-½	0.5	...	...
133	8	Maxwell Mr	25½	-½	1.0	5.2	...
5	5	Martin Intl	5 #	...	...	...	...
46	27	Moorfield Est	31	...	...	0.4	...
1075	580	Mountview	780	...	18.0	3.1	8.0
9	2½	Mowat a	2½	...	...	...	...
139	101	Muckow (A&J)	137	...	5.9	5.9	18.8
117	30	Olive Hldgs	31	...	9.0	...	4.7
30	3½	Oxney Est	8½	...	0.1	2.4	3.5
201	83	Peel	198	...	3.0	2.0	...
103	8	Power Corp	12	...	...	...	1.3
122	54	Prop Security	120	...	3.7	4.2	23.9
125½	14½	Property Trust	28	...	...	...	...
2	¼	Raglan	¼	-½	...	...	...
68	15	Regalian	14½	-½	1.5	13.8	2.9
10½	3½	Rosehaugh	7½	...	...	...	...
175	115	Rowlinson Secs	115	...	1.3	1.6	24.5
30	12	St Modwen Prp	30	...	0.6	2.7	22.9
52	21	Savills	49	...	...	...	...
72	18	Scot Met	56	...	1.5	3.6	...
69	39	Shaftesbury	69	...	...	...	...
12½	2	Shield	9	...	...	...	...
38	11	Sinclair Gdsm	35 #	...	0.5	1.9	...
248	83	Slough Estates	195	-5	8.1	5.6	11.1
78	36	Southend Prop	71	...	4.1	7.8	35.8
28½	2½	Speyhawk	15½	...	...	...	...
39	9	Stanhope Prps a	26	...	...	...	...
100	58	Town Centre	99	+2	3.1	4.2	18.3
63	35	Trafford Park	63	...	2.5	5.4	17.0
38	7	UK Land	24	-2	...	...	...
9½	4	Union Square	7½	...	...	...	...
217	119	Warner	213	...	10.5	6.8	-
205	168	Warnford	189	...	7.2	5.1	13.1
8	1	Waterglade	6	...	...	...	...
91	23	Wates	47	-1	0.7	2.2	...
49	17	Wood John Da	49	+1	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagica	12	...	...	...	...
108	42	Headlam	103	...	2.4	3.1	40.8
500	265	Lambert	445	-30	13.0	4.0	-
111	63	Pittard Garnar	88	+1	1.5	2.3	11.7
41	18	Strong & Fisher	22	...	1.0	6.3	5.8
193	88	Stylo	126	...	2.5	2.6	...

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
485	362	Allied Text	484	+1	12.6	3.5	15.6
73	47	Beckman (A)	61	...	4.7	10.4	12.1
52	21	Bolton Gp	23	...	...	...	11.7
165	138	Br Mohair	164	...	8.5	7.2	-
132	30	Celestion	132	...	1.4	1.4	-
41	15	Chartwell a	20	...	0.4	2.7	...
345	199½	Claremont Gs	336	-4	7.2	2.9	-
601	384	Courtauld Text	594 †	-3	13.6	3.1	16.0
248½	160	Dawson	233	-2	9.0	5.2	22.7
59	17	Drummond	22	...	1.5	...	7.7
60	17½	Dunkeld	31	...	...	...	...
73	60	Faupel a	72	...	...	9.1	7.1
68	15	Foster (John)	18	-4	0.5	3.7	...
142	84	Gaskell	85	...	8.5	...	...
186	99	Hicking Pntcst	167	...	3.4	2.7	14.2
77	38	Jerome (S)	57	...	1.0	...	...
389	315	Lamont	324	-1	...	4.9	15.9
425	209½	Leeds	420	-2	...	2.3	20.3
42	15	Lister	36	...	0.1	0.4	...
122	81	Lyles (S)	113	...	4.9	5.8	12.8
100	53	Parkland 'A'	97	-1	2.0	2.7	...
95½	63	Readicut	93	...	3.4	4.9	18.5
71	30	SEET	43	...	...	...	...
94	67	Sirdar	89	-1	5.1	7.9	15.4
56	29	Stirling Gp	56	...	1.6	3.9	23.3
59	31	Stoddard	44	+1	2.6	8.0	11.7
312	198	Tomkinsons	307	...	11.5	5.0	20.5
62½	30	West Trust	46	...	...	...	...
356	160	Yorklyde	345	...	9.7	3.8	16.1

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1013	608	BAT	991	+3	...	5.1	20.9
670	480	Rothmans 'B'	622	-6	10.2	2.2	14.2

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
440	211	Assoc Br Ports	403 †	-5	8.5	2.8	...
816	531	BAA	795	+5	14.5	2.4	14.0
315	219	Br Airways	283	+2½	10.1	4.8	7.0
182	45	Clarkson (H)	73	...	8.0	...	3.5
101	11	Davies Newman	22 #	...	...	...	...
515	295	Eurotunnel Uts	475	-4	...	...	...
88	44	Fisher (James)	49	...	1.0	2.7	-
140	70	Goalg	130	...	4.5	4.4	...
203	147	IoM Steam	163	...	...	6.4	-
39	22	Jacobs (JI)	28	...	1.9	0.5	15.9
89	41	Lon O'seas Frts	67	...	1.2	2.5	4.1
2225	1237½	Maersk Sh	2225	...	4.5	0.3	12.1
348	190	Mersey Docks	348	+3	7.5	2.9	-
210	168	Natl Express	190	-1	...	5.0	12.5
290	216	NFC	261	+2	6.5	3.4	19.7
357	170	Ocean Group	285	-4	14.3	6.5	13.5
63	31	Ocean Wilson	48	-3	...	7.4	10.7
627	296½	P & O Dfd	598	-5	...	7.0	18.7
156	97	P & O 5 1/2%	131	-2	...	5.6	...
530	287	Powell Duffryn	523	-1	22.6	5.8	20.9
138	96	Seacon a	127	+2	...	5.4	8.0
59	23½	TIP Europe	29½	...	1.4	6.3	7.2
87	34	TNT	39	...	...	...	...
765	495½	Tibber & Brism	748	-2	...	1.9	29.9
478	214	Tiphook	374	-4	17.3	6.2	7.4
307	208	TDG	262 †	-3	9.5	4.8	-

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
536	308½	Anglian Water	525	-3	19.3	4.9	9.5
647	336	Northumbrian	643	-1	20.5	4.3	8.7
524	323	North West	506	-4	19.6	5.2	8.9
520	298	Severn Trent	505	+1	19.3	5.1	7.4
537	301	Sthrn Water	522	-7	19.5	5.0	9.2
1300	670	Sth Staffs	1285	...	40.2	4.2	8.3
560	306	South West	541	-5	21.7	5.3	8.2
547	324	Thames Water	537	...	19.3	4.8	10.2
599	332	Welsh Water	590	-2	21.4	4.8	6.8
642	359½	Wessex Water	631	...	...	4.1	8.5
579	334	Yorkshire W	569	-2	19.5	4.6	9.5

Source: Finstat

a USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ↑ Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; ◊ Ex capital distribution; - Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.



THEATRE page 34
At her most incisive: Judi Dench brings the new Shaffer play into the West End

ARTS

PROFILE page 35
Howard Barker's new play will not harm his reputation for rocking the Establishment boat



CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** on the new releases, from the Oscar-nominated *Indochine* to the blustery *Wind*

Deneuve grows older disgracefully

Madame Minh Tam is plainly perplexed by the doings in **Indochine**. "I'll never understand French people's love stories," she says. "So much folly, fury, suffering." During the two and a half hours of Régis Wargnier's sumptuous romantic film — the kind you thought nobody made any more — there are plenty of reasons for Mme Minh, a wealthy businesswoman, to raise an elegant eyebrow.

Look, for starters, at Catherine Deneuve, for long years the French cinema's ice queen: as Eliane Devries, autocratic ruler of a large rubber plantation in 1930s Saigon, this ageless beauty breaks into smiles, sups on opium, and enjoys sex with a young naval officer in the back of her car while the chauffeur waits in the rain. Her dress sense, though, remains exquisitely refined: each scene brings a different, ravishing ensemble.

Deneuve's performance as the female epitome of French colonialism is beguiling. Nominated for a Best Actress Oscar, she has already won the equivalent French César. Yet it is not, finally, her love story that this romantic epic celebrates. That honour belongs to 17-year-old Linh Dan Pham, as Camille, Eliane's adopted daughter.

Where Eliane quickly forsakes the youth with the gleaming white duds and epaulettes, Camille succumbs to *amour fou*. Abandoning the trappings of privilege, she follows Vincent Perez's dashing naval officer to a remote outpost, shoots a French slave-seller, and flees the authorities in a country quaking with communist unrest.

Indochine is spectacularly staged by Wargnier, among authentic eye-popping scenery. You really feel the heat, the sweat, the easy luxury and the back-breaking toil. The novelettish story, to be sure, needs every decoration going: on the few occasions when it stands naked, the film begins to droop. There are clumsy transitions to a framing story set in 1954, the year of French Indochina's demise, and Patrick Doyle's ever-present music leans to the mediocre. But that ends the debit sheet: whoever yearns for the opulent escapist cinema of old will find many more pleasures.

Indochine
12, Curzon West End
Forever Young
PG, MGM Haymarket
Wittgenstein
ICA Cinema
The Distinguished Gentleman
15, Odeon Leicester Square
Wind
PG, Plaza

Forever Young is another film to stack up against the odious violence of much modern movie-making. Here is Mel Gibson, as wholesome as ma's apple pie, with blue eyes to match the California sky. He starts out in 1939: a test pilot, brave and true in the air, but a dreadful ditherer when it comes to love. Desolate after his sweetheart's death, Gibson volunteers for a scientist pal's deep-freeze experiment and disappears into a splendid contraption that might have come from a *Flash Gordon* serial. He thaws out by accident in 1992, alone and confused until he meets Jamie Lee Curtis, a gutsy single parent with a young boy in need of a dad. Will Mel ever find true love again? And when will grey hair and wrinkles catch him up?

Fifty years ago, Hollywood made a speciality of comforting fantasies such as this. Jeffrey Abrams's script updates the formula with refreshing zest, and never overdoes the time-travelling jokes: a few encounters with answering machines and a television advertisement for "Thighmaster" prove just enough. Relationships are what matter here; and though Gibson spends too much time nursing his charm, Lee Curtis, young Elijah Wood and the director Steve Miner bring scenes to life with the right mix of warmth and astringency.

From Gibson we jump to Ludwig Wittgenstein, linguistic philosopher, born in Vienna, long resident in Cambridge, author of the *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (1921). No pin-up he, though Derek Jarman does his best in **Wittgenstein** to dress the film in alluring conceits and make the man's thinking as approachable as possible. Since Wittgenstein dealt in higher matters, such as the meaning of meaning, this is a considerable feat. No doubt the Oxford professor Terry Eagleton's work on the script helped here.

Wittgenstein first appears as a child prodigy but, for the most part, he is a self-torturing adult, formulating his semantic theories while harbouring passions for Betty Grable movies and a working-class lad called Johnny. As played by Karl Johnson, Wittgenstein seems a sobersides; but around him clusters the customary Jarman carnival, from Tilda Swinton's haughty Lady Ottoline Morrell to John Quentin's prancing John Maynard Keynes (puce suit, green waistcoat). Jarman even rustles up a green Martian for Wittgenstein to converse with: these scenes, however, are not the most persuasive. The film works best when at its simplest, with Wittgenstein, Keynes and Michael Gough's Bertrand Russell arguing the toss in spare, evocative sets, and making the most abstruse notions palpable.

So few films today excite the eye and stimulate the intellect: *Wittgenstein* achieves both with an impressive light touch and, at 75 minutes, it knows exactly when to stop. This thinking person's vaudeville show might not match *The Garden* for poetic power, but you sense a master film-maker at work.

Not so **The Distinguished Gentleman**. Instead we get a master egotist, Eddie Murphy. This long-winded comedy about congressional corruption in Washington D.C. may not be as obnoxious as his last venture, *Boomerang*, but there is still enough of that trademark laugh and smug, beaming smile to curl the toes.

Murphy plays Tom Johnson, a Florida conman who gets himself elected to Congress and basks in the perks and kickbacks. Until, that is, he meets a kid with a brain cancer possibly caused by her school's proximity to high-voltage power lines. A social conscience dawns, and Murphy picks up James Stewart's torch from *Mr Smith Goes to Washington*.

The film never reaches the satirical level of *Bob Roberts*: broad buffoonery and star mugging rule. The obedient director is British export Jonathan Lynn, who showed far sharper political teeth in the days of *Yes, Minister*.

Wind is the landlubber's nightmare: a two-hour film about the America's Cup, awash with sea spray, billowing canvas, and athletic types climbing rigging. Visually, Carroll Ballard's film is impressive: John Toll's camera throws us into the marine hurly-burly, and snatches surprising images from the scenes on land, in Newport and the Utah desert. Yet in plot terms, *Wind* never sets sail.

The script fictionalises real events: an unprecedented American defeat at the hands of Australia is turned into victory. But when the crew is led by a dullard like Matthew Modine, who cares who wins? Things improve in Utah, when the team's eccentricities poke through. Then *Wind* takes to the water again and it's time to yell "Cliché ahoy!"



Last tango in Saigon: Catherine Deneuve as Eliane Devries and Linh Dan Pham as her adopted daughter Camille in a scene from Régis Wargnier's *Indochine*

TELEVISION REVIEW: Two new comedy series



Disapproving daughters: Honeysuckle Weeks (left), Victoria Shalet in *Goggle Eyes*

Groans and growing up

Adolescence seems to be as awkward an age for television planners as it was for Henry James. Children are a known and lavishly catered-for quantity, but between the kids' stuff and supposedly adult television floats an ill-defined area, currently occupied by repeats of *The Man from Uncle*.

A drama series that looks at life, without condescension but with humour, through 12-year-old eyes, is a *rarity*: the first episode of Goggle Eyes (BBC 2) adapted by Deborah Moggach from the novel by Anne Fine, did just that, and did it notably well.

The goggle eyes themselves belonged, not to the series' central figure, 12-year-old Kitty (Honeysuckle Weeks), but to her mother's new, balding, nearly 50 and, to Kitty, utterly repulsive "boy" friend, Gerald (Alun Armstrong).

No wishful thinking about the ideal of the nuclear family here: Fine and Moggach have acknowledged the fact, which so many commentators prefer to ignore, that (because of the intolerable pressure on the family brought about by the destruction of the community?), many once-nuclear families resemble the aftermath of a nuclear explosion.

An adaptation from a novel is appreciated, but not a comedian's view of his life

The new thought that occurred to me while watching was that a generation of irresponsible me-first adults may be producing an extraordinary race of super-children much older than their years.

Much of the first episode consisted of amusing role-reversal, in which Lesley Manville's animal rights-campaigning divorcée dashed dippily around like a teenager on speed preparing for dates with middle-aged men, while her daughters, Kitty and Jude (Victoria Shalet, 11, awesomely skilled at flattery) looked on and gave advice.

Weeks showed no embarrassment in tackling the starring role of Kitty: hers was a performance of remarkable maturity and emotional range, able to express not just the surface resentment caused by Gerald's intrusion, but also, and movingly, the feelings of neglect and disappointment lying underneath.

The excellent Armstrong was fully stretched fielding the two girls and a malevolent cat, and a splendid cameo as a deaf babysitter came from the indestructible Thora Hird. Carol Wiseman's direction was sensitive.

The family which produced Norman Lovett, playing "himself" in his new comedy series *I, Lovett* (BBC 2), could never have been nuclear — more a mixture of Charles Addams and Scottish communist. His bourgeois-loathing poet father brought him up to be artistically miserable, and the result was the desperate, hopeless longing to be normal which often seems to be a characteristic of people called Norman.

Lovett, of course, could not be "normal", however hard he tried, with his lop-sided, fish-like face and toothless grin. How one responds to his slightly maudlin whimsy, streaked with surrealistic visual touches, is probably a personal matter. I felt that a scene featuring a head-scratching psychiatrist who turns into a gorilla owed more than a little to Thurber, and comparisons were not flattering.

HARRY EYRES

COMMENT

Bastille besieged?

Rodney Milnes on the cultural consequences of victory for the right wing in the French elections

For some months now the future of the Bastille Opera has been a talking point in Paris — not least inside the building itself. The widely predicted right-wing election victory was bound to have an effect in a country where the arts are a political football. Doubtless Tuesday's prediction by the president of the National Library that the theatre would be closed down was the first shot in the complicated tactical manoeuvrings that will characterise the coming months as various half-backs defend their own corners.

The commissioning of the theatre was a political act by President Mitterrand, a gesture in the direction of popularising the high arts. Even before the building was finished politics raised their head: in the first period of "cohabitation" in 1986, the prime minister Jacques Chirac decreed modifications to the multi-auditorium complex. The appointment of Daniel Barenboim as artistic director at a publicised mega-salary and his plans for elitist, festival-style seasons — not Mitterrand's idea at all — were countered by the president's appointment of his friend Pierre Bergé as overall boss: Bergé sacked Barenboim, the first of many regular changes of top management, now so frequent that it is virtually impossible to keep track.



Pierre Bergé: Bastille boss

Mitterrand's vision of popular opera faded: ticket prices are almost twice those that he envisaged, though with a top of £65 they compare well with London. The building costs spiralled to around £350 million, and the current cost to the government is £84 million annually. There are severe acoustical problems and the main auditorium is chilly and unwelcoming.

Down the road at the Châtelet, the Théâtre Musical de Paris, instituted by Chirac in his capacity as mayor of Paris, promotes top flight opera, including some Barenboim-Chéreau projects once intended for the Bastille.

So, will — should — the Bastille fall once more? Probably not. For a start, it is a success with the public; the theatre is habitually full. It has mounted as many successes as failures — the recent *St François d'Assise* and *Jeanne d'Arc au Bûcher* were hailed as cultural triumphs, and there have been such high profile stagings as *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, a smart Robert Wilson *Magic Flute* and the *Tales of Hoffmann*, as well as the inescapable Pavarotti and Domingo evenings.

And the Bastille has one undoubted artistic trump up its sleeve, the emergence of Myung-Whun Chung as a music director of international distinction, a serious and popular musician and in no sense an absentee landlord. Indeed, his popularity has led to his flexing his own political muscles — last autumn's disposal of the general administrator Georges François Hirsch was said to have been the result of a "him or me" ultimatum from Chung.

In the end, too much has been invested, too many uncountable millions of francs, for the Bastille simply to be junked, and it has created an audience for opera that the much loved Palais Garnier no longer has the capacity to satisfy. No doubt there is room for rationalisation — a good right-wing buzzword — of the provision of opera in Paris, for systematic deployment of the facilities offered by the Garnier, the Bastille, the Châtelet, the Champs-Elysées and the dear old Salle Favart.

Whatever happens, how unlike the artistic life of our own dear capital city, where the sums hurled around in Paris would never enter the consciousness of those ultimately responsible for the survival of our own two crumbling, besieged opera houses.

Bowles lives on

ARTS BRIEFING

DESPITE the death last week from Aids of composer Anthony Bowles, a revival of the musical he wrote with Mike Alfreds, *Love in the Country*, goes ahead as planned, opening at the Almeida Theatre (071-359 4404) on April 27. There will be seven performances followed by a West End gala night on May 2 at the Duke of York's Theatre (tickets: 071-836 5122) with all proceeds going to Aids charities. Bowles, 61, was working on the revival up until his death.

● AFTER her role in the delicately observed film *Enchanted April*, something much more raucous lies in store for that quick-witted comedian Josie Lawrence. She will be playing the title part in *Moll Flanders*, a musical version of Defoe's celebrated bodice-ripper. Claire Luckham's adaptation, using ballad tunes of the period, will open at the Lyric Hammersmith on April 23.

Pools winner

THE Foundation for Sport and the Arts, a trust fund set up by the pools companies, has given away its first £100 million. Since its inception, hundreds of sports clubs and arts organisations have benefited from the FSA, which receives more than £60 million a year from pools companies following a reduction in pools betting duty announced in the 1991 Budget. However, there are fears that the foundation may not survive the advent of the national lottery.

Last chance . . .

BERLIOZ's "dramatic legend" *The Damnation of Faust* is notoriously difficult to stage, but while there are questionable details in Harry Kupfer's version at Covent Garden it is difficult not to surrender to its almost culinary theatrical zing and spectacle. But ironically the real strengths of the evening are entirely musical: conducting of epic breadth and upfront sensuousness by Sir Colin Davis, and superb singing from Samuel Ramey, Olga Borodina and Jerry Hadley. The last performance is tonight (071-240 1066/1911).

NOMINATED 2 OSCARS including Best Actress (Catherine Deneuve)
WINNER 5 FRENCH CESARS • WINNER GOLDEN GLOBE Best Foreign Film
CATHERINE DENEUVE
INDOCHINE
A film by Régis Wargnier
"VISUALLY STUNNING ...IRRESISTIBLE" VANITY FAIR
"Lashings of passion, tango-dancing, tragedy and spectacle... RAVISHING" ELLE
STARTS FRIDAY CURZON WEST END SHAFTESBURY AVE (071) 439 4805
ODEON KENSINGTON 071 571 3166
RICHMOND FILMHOUSE 081-332 0030

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

LONDON

RUDRA BEJART BALLET LAUSANNE: The popular Belgian choreographer Maurice Béjart is rarely seen in London so this visit of his new company marks an important event in the dance calendar. For this season he applies his theatrical skills to a programme dedicated to some of the celebrated names of cinema, especially Charlie Chaplin. Chaplin's daughter and grandson will feature; so too will the French ballerina Sylvie Guillem who stars in a new solo, Sissi.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

CARACALLA DANCE COMPANY. Shakespeare comes in many forms, but none so unusual as an Arab version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The Beirut-based company fuses contemporary dance with oriental and folk styles to create a colourful and fast-moving production.
Royalty Theatre, Portugal Street, WC2 (071-494 5090), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA. Alfred Brendel continues his journey through the history of the piano concerto with a performance of a concerto by Schumann. Sibelius's Symphony No 1, and Harrison Birtwistle's *Nomos* make up the rest of the programme under the baton of Michael Schonwandt.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Yuri Bashmet has done much to raise the profile of the viola. Here, in the first of a series of concerts with the LSO, he performs Berio's orchestration of Brahms's Sonata No 1, Bartok's viola concerto; and the concerto written for him by Alfred Schnittke. Valery Gergiev conducts.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.30pm. Further concerts March Sun, April 1, 3.

CINQUECENTO: This show puts successive models of the citydweller's small car, the Fiat 500, in their context of classic Italian design, and includes the original drawings, lifesize models of variations commissioned from top Italian designers and vivid documentation of the concept's development.
Design Museum, Butlers Wharf, SE1 (071-403 6933). Daily, 10.30am-5.30pm, until May 31.

THE VIRGIN CROWN: A new, two-act opera by Geoffrey Hanson, produced and conducted by Rhonda Kess, receives its world premiere by the London Ripieno Singers and Orchestra: a young priest falls in love with the ghost of a girl not realising she is from the spirit world. The soloists are Constance Novis, Jean Hornbuckle, Michael Powell and Bruce Kershaw.
St Cyprian's Church, Clarence Gate, NW1 (tickets on the door), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC: Nicholas Kok conducts an unusual operatic double-bill pairing Milhaud's *Trois Operas-Minutes* with Eccles's *The Judgment of Paris*. Produced by baritone Ian Caddy and designed by students from the Slade School.
Rudolf Steiner Theatre, 35 Park Road, NW1 (tickets on the door), tonight, *tomorrow, 7.30pm*.

TEA DANCE: Experienced and novice dancers are invited to a mass tea dance held in the Festival Hall ballroom (Level 2), with the Piccadilly Dance Orchestra and Irving Lindy Hoppers.
Festival Hall Ballroom, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 2-5pm.

REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM: Herbert Blomstedt, conductor of the **San Francisco Symphony Orchestra** for nearly a decade, conducts Copland's *Appalachian Spring* and Bruckner's Fourth Symphony.
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (021-212 3333), 7.30pm.

BOLTON: An unprecedented staging of **Titus Andronicus** uses deaf and hearing actors in a version that incorporates sign language along with the text.
Octagon, Howell Croft South (0204 20661). Preview tonight, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow, 7.30pm, then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 2pm and Sat (April 10), 2pm, until April 10.

BRACKNELL: Peter Knapp's lively **Travelling Opera** performs the Mozart opera *Don Giovanni*, conducted by Martin Handley (tomorrow) and its new production of Bizet's *Carmen*, conducted by Richard Balcombe (tonight, Sat).
Wilde Theatre, South Hill Park Arts Centre (0344 484123), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

GLASGOW: The impressive New Orleans **Rebirth Brass Band** offers a diverse repertoire with influences from hip-hop to reggae.
City Hall, Candleriggs (041-227 5511), 8pm.

OXFORD. The Choir of New College, Oxford performs Handel's **Messiah** in the "Oxford" version, the form in which it was first heard in Oxford on July 14, 1749 (also at the Sheldonian). With tenor Paul Agnew, soprano Gillian Fisher, countertenor James Bowman and bass Henry Herford.
Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street (0865 864056), 6.30pm.

PLYMOUTH. The **St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra** gives the final performance in its UK tour. The programme comprises Tchaikovsky's fantasy overture from *Romeo and Juliet*, Rachmaninov's Symphony No 3 and Glazunov's Violin Concerto in A minor (with Maxim Fedotov as the soloist). Alexander Dmitriev conducts.
Pavilion, Millbay Road (0752 229922), 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **CHATSKY**: Colin Firth dishes out the spleen as the horror of Griboyedov's bitter comedy. Clever staging of Anthony Burgess's translation though the play hardly lives up to its Russian reputation as a major classic.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

■ **CRAZY FOR YOU**: Thrillingly staged new version of the Gershwin musical *Girl Crazy*. Exceptional entertainment value.
Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

□ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC**: Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

◪ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA**: Exceptionally strong production of the Rattigan drama by Karel Reisz, transfers after a sell-out run at the Almeida. With Penelope Wilton and Linus Roache.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

□ **THE GIFT OF THE GORGON**: Following a sell-out run at the Barbican Pit, Peter Shaffer's play transfers to the West End. Judi Dench heads the cast.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

■ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST**: Maggie Smith commands the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

□ **INVADE MY PRIVACY**: The tart and witty poems/songs of Fran Landesman brilliantly delivered around a dinner table by four performers and a three-piece band. A real tonic.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-748 3354). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 6pm and 8pm. 120mins.

□ **THE INVISIBLE MAN**: Not so cosy a venue as its birthplace in Stratford East but the show is as jolly as ever. Paul Kiev's magic tricks are amazing.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◪ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**: Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical; Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp. (A new cast takes over from next week led by American actress Bebe Neuwirth.)
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

■ **THE LAST YANKEE**: Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere. Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 75mins.

□ **LOST IN YONKERS**: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

◪ **MISERY**: Julie T. Wallace and Nigel Le Vaillant take over the leading roles in Stephen King's thriller.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

□ **NO MAN'S LAND**: Paul Eddington and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

◪ **ON THE PISTE**: John Godber's slight but amusing look at partner trouble in a downmarket ski resort.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 135mins.

□ **PLAYLAND**: Athol Fugard's two-hander, white man and black man, loitering outside a fairground, haul up their past and hint at the future. Builds to an eloquent climax.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 90mins.

□ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT**: John Wells, William Gaunt, Richard Kane and Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's cunning adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

◪ **UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS AND THE TRUE NATURE OF LOVE**: Sex, selfishness and serial murder: scorching production of Canadian Brad Fraser's passionate debut play.
Hampstead, Avenue Road, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

LONG RUNNERS: □ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ■ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . ■ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . □ **Hay Fever**: Albery (071-867 1115) . . ◪ **An Ideal Husband**: Globe (071-494 5065) ◪ **It Runs in the Family**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) . . ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information from SWET.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **CANDYMAN** (18): Mythical serial killer snares Virginia Madsen in a decrepit Chicago housing estate. Silly stuff, with fancy trimmings. Director, Bernard Rose.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CRUSH (15): Impressive, jolting New Zealand fable about sexual power games, a first feature from Alison Maclean. With Marcia Gay Harden, Donogh Rees, Caitlin Bossley.
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Metro** (071-437 0757)

◆ **HOFFA** (15). A star turn by Jack Nicholson as a labour leader with mob connections, but a dull, unedifying David Mamet script. Director, Danny DeVito.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CURRENT

◆ **HONEYMOON IN VEGAS** (12): Private eye Nicolas Cage tries to save girlfriend from gambler James Caan's clutches. Andrew Bergman's agreeable, old-fashioned screwball comedy.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **West End** (0426-915 574)

KNIFE IN THE WATER (PG): Gripping psychological games on a small sailing boat. Welcome revival of Polanski's first (and last) Polish feature, made in 1962.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

◆ **LEON THE PIG FARMER** (15): Jewish lad discovers his embarrassing pedigree. Exuberant British comedy that gets unduly silly. Stars Mark Frankel, Brian Glover; directors, Vadim Jean, Gary Sinyor.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666)

◆ **MALCOLM X** (15): Spike Lee's ambitious epic. Denzel Washington is solid as the black activist, but prickly issues get sidestepped, and there is little cinematic fire.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

ORLANDO (PG): Virginia Woolf's exuberant novel about a free spirit (Tilda Swinton) who lives for 400 years changing sex en route, filmed with great aplomb by British director Sally Potter. Recommended.
Gate (071-727 4043) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).

◆ **A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT** (PG): Robert Redford's hymn to family, nature and fly fishing. Beautifully mounted, but lacking punch. With Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **SCENT OF A WOMAN** (15): A blind army veteran visits New York with a prep school pup. Far too long, with a barnstorming star (Al Pacino) and just a few spots of magic. With Chris O'Donnell, director, Martin Brest.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **UNDER SIEGE** (15). US battleship gets hijacked, but Steven Seagal saves the day. Familiar antics, with juicy villainy from Tommy Lee Jones and Gary Busey. Director, Andrew Davis.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-630 0310) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **TOYS** (PG). Toy factory falls into evil hands. Over-elaborate, unfunny whimsy from director Barry Levinson, with Robin Williams, Michael Gambon, Joan Cusack, and toys galore.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** reassesses a Peter Shaffer play as it makes a timely transfer

Revenge is less sweet the second time

The Gift of the Gorgon
Wyndhams



DONALD COOPER

Judi Dench and Michael Pennington in Peter Shaffer's play: "Genius is always hard to dramatise"

PETER SHAFFER'S *Gift of the Gorgon* has its limitations, but mistiming is not one of them. Its transfer from the Pit to Wyndhams could not come at an apter moment, considering that its protagonist is a dramatist moved by the IRA's casual slaughter of children to preach the gospel of an eye for an eye. Is revenge a profound and cleansing need, as he repeats, or must we forgive the brutes and the monsters, as his wife thinks? It is as urgent a debate as any, and Shaffer does well to air it onstage.

But how deep are the foundations on which the debate is built, and how far does it get off the ground? There is no doubt that *Gorgon* has its plausibility problems. For instance, we must believe that the revenge-play Michael Pennington's Edward Damson writes is not only execrated by critics and audiences alike for its raw power, but leaves him a ruined man, forced to flee Britain to Greek exile and the ignominious death that is reported as the curtain rises. I don't think public taste is so namby-pamby or, for that matter, the liberal consensus so powerful. If Damson is the genius Shaffer claims, his play would probably run and run — and why not?

But it is precisely here that the credibility gap begins to widen. Genius is always hard to dramatise, especially when we have to take its achievements on trust; and Damson's exorbitantly flamboyant posturings and exotic Welsh-Russian lineage owe more to Shaffer's schematic fancy than to his powers of observation.

Everything that rolling eyes, wild hair and fiery delivery can do to command belief, Pennington offers us; but it is not enough to explain why Judi Dench, who is at her emotionally and intellectually most incisive as his wife and widow, should ever have swallowed his *haut-bohème* rant ("the theatre is the only religion that can never die"), still less his fake-dionysiac dancing.

Indeed, a second viewing of *Gorgon* left me feeling that it is actually two inadequately explored and imperfectly integrated plays. One is a sceptical obit, about an unruly artist and his impact on those who should have been his nearest and dearest: here, not only the wife who sacrificed herself to his muse, but the son who comes posthumously to discover the father who rejected him. The other, about the ethics of retribution, surely needs a plot of its own. Frankly, I would have preferred an intelligent version of Damson's tale of the respectable middle-class woman who hunts down her son's IRA killer to what Shaffer gives us, a few passionate *pensées* on the respective claims of blood and reason.

In some ways Peter Hall's production weathers its move from open plan to proscenium arch pretty well. The chronological overlapping — Damson Jr discovering Damson Sr, time present reacting to time past — is expertly handled. And Dench in particular is a marvel of intense yet disciplined feeling. But do the mythological snippets, with her playing Athena to Pennington's Perseus, add enough to justify their insertion? There, perhaps, is a third play, also waiting to be written.

STUDENT OPERA: Stylish Britten at the Royal College; and a Glinka epic revived in Bloomsbury

Resolutely unresolved

The Turn of The Screw
Royal College of Music

COULD Britten have chosen a more daunting operatic subject than the refined terrors of Henry James's ghost story? In James's oblique narrative, ambiguity is all-important: "Make [the reader] think the evil," he wrote, "make him think it for himself, and you are released from weak specifications." In the theatre, those specifications are less easily escaped. Questions James leaves crucially open — Are the ghosts only imagined by the Governess? If not, what exactly is their relationship with the children? — are almost resolved once the ghosts are brought on stage and given not only voices but words.

Almost resolved, but not quite, for in the opera's enigmatic sonorities, its elaborate variation structure and intricate motivic organisation of complex textures and shifting rhythms, James creates a striking musical equivalent for the elegantly oppressive tensions of James's delicate verbal fabric.

A producer, of course, can resolve the ambiguities still further. Julia Hollander, in this stylish and thoughtful staging at the RCM, wisely does not. Psychological realism underpins her depiction of the supernatural, blurring the boundaries between fear of evil and evil itself. Tahra Kharibian's sparse schoolroom set, with its pale, stark walls and steeply raked floor, is at once naturalistic and nightmarish, secure and menacingly confined. The walls in fact are of gauze; dramatic lighting (by Charles Edwards) turns sunlit normality to lurid horror in an instant.

Committed and considered performances carry the young cast through many of Britten's formidable vocal challenges. Marianne Hellgren is a tormented Governess; her voice may sound more at home with lyricism than with mounting hysteria, but sounding at home is not really the point here, and her anxious blend of courage and confusion convinces. Susan Strangward's bustling, urgent Mrs Grose lacks some of the role's essential stolidity; warmer tone and clearer diction would make her a better foil for Hellgren's anguish.

The ghosts are a powerful presence. Walter Dixon, pleading a throat infection on the first night, embodies Quint with persuasive intelligence and supple precision, while Denise Mulholland is a rivetingly theatrical Miss Jessel, her ripe, dark voice firm through the most impassioned histrionics. The children — a bright, brittle Flora from Janet Fairlie, a vividly inscrutable Miles from Samuel Burkey (who sang the role in the most recent revival of Jonathan Miller's ENO production) — are as they should be: neither obviously innocent nor extravagantly corrupt.

Michael Rosewell draws spirited, forthright playing from the small group of instrumentalists, rightly risking some sacrifice of textural detail and rhythmic subtlety in the interests of dramatic momentum. There are two further performances, tonight and (with a different cast and conductor) tomorrow.

IAN BRUNSKILL

Rough ride to Russia

Ruslan and Lyudmila
Bloomsbury Theatre

UNIVERSITY College Opera's production of Glinka's seminal opera of 1842 is an infuriating mixture of pluses and minuses. On the minus side is the absolute dottiness of an English-speaking cast singing in sort-of Russian, parrot fashion, to an English-speaking audience, and of starting an opera of near-Wagnerian proportions at 7.30, turning patrons out on to the streets well after 11.

Yet 7.30 was not late enough for the programmes to have arrived. Said patrons were subjected to the first act without so much as a house-manager telling them who was singing or conducting (let alone apologising), or even explaining in summary what the plot was about: those not lucky enough to have spent the afternoon with their noses deep in the *New Grove Dictionary of Opera* must have been wondering what all those people were screaming about in an indeterminate language.

At least this frustrating episode gave one time to make the mental adjustment to the standards on display. The chorus, at times barely audible, was limp even by UCO standards, and the orchestra — well, they arrived at assorted goals more or less unanimously however various the routes they took to get there. And there was some variable singing.

But as the evening wore on, you could not help admiring the sheer guts of the company in tackling so demanding an opera, in performing so much of it (ballet included), and even providing an agreeably raucous double stage-band. Above all, you could not but surrender to the astonishing inventiveness of the score.

Glinka responded to Pushkin's sardonic fairy-tale — a welter of put-upon heroines, rival suitors, competing magicians and the wickedest witch in the east — with a bewildering mix of Italian form (he knew Bellini and Donizetti personally, and he plainly admired Rossini), folksy Russian speech and song-patterns, Teutonic orchestral effects and exotic oriental colouring.

This is the seed-bed from which all Russian opera grew, not just the works of Mussorgsky and Tchaikovsky, but of Rimsky, Prokofiev, even Stravinsky. *Ruslan* is also packed full of good tunes, piquant harmony and spicy instrumentation. There is scarcely a routine or a predictable bar in it and, if nothing else, UCO have whetted the appetite for a slap-up new production — shared between Covent Garden and the Kirov, say.

Meanwhile, admiration for the conductor, David Drummond, for somehow steering his wayward craft to port, for Mike Ashman's discreetly zany production, and for Bernard Culshaw's decor, which characteristically made *much out of little*. Helen Kucharek, Elizabeth Harley and Michael Preston-Roberts stood out from a hard-working cast. For doughty spirits, there are repeats tomorrow and Saturday.

RODNEY MILNES

ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Ave W1 071 439 4805 Jeremy Irons, Juliette Binoche in DAMAGE (18) A film by Louis Malle. Progs at 12.45, 3.20, 6.00 & 8.35 Last Week From Fri INDOCHINE (12)

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St. 071 465 8865 Gerard Depardieu in TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun) 3.30, 6.00 & 8.25

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd. 071 867 1044 HOWARDS END (PG) Progs at 2.30, 5.15 & 8.05 Winner Best Film BAFTA Awards 1993. Nominated for 9 Oscars

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 836 3161 cc 240 5258 cc (24 hr) 240 7200 /344 4444
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Ton't 7.30 DON PASQUALE
Tomor 7.30 THE DUEL OF TANCREDI AND CLORINDA /BLUEBEARD'S CASTLE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911. Standby info 836 6903. S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't 8.00 La Damnation de Faust.
Tomor 7.30 Pelleas et Melisande.

SADLER'S WELLS 071-278 8916 First Call 24 hrs 7 days 240 7200 Until 3 April BEJART BALLET LAUSANNE Eves 7.30

To place your ENTERTAINMENT advert in THE TIMES
TRADE 071-481 1920
FAX 071-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE 071-481 4000

THEATRES

ADELPHI
Andrew Lloyd Webber's New Musical
SUNSET BOULEVARD
OPENS 29th JUNE
Now bkg for performances from 1st July
24HR CREDIT CARD BKGS CALL 071 344 0055 (with bkg fee) GROUP BOOKING 071 413 3302 (with bkg fee)
In view of extensive refurbishment work at the Adelphi Theatre a temporary box office facility is now available for personal callers at the Palace Theatre (Shaftesbury Ave. side) Open 10am-6pm Mon-Sat

CALL 071-481 1920
To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

ALBERY 071-867 1115/867 1111 cc 071 344 4444 (No Fee) Groups 930 6123/413 3321
MARIA AITKEN JOHN STANDING
in NOEL COWARD'S
HAY FEVER
"ONE OF THE FINEST PRODUCTIONS OF THE YEAR.. A COMIC MASTERPIECE" D Tel.
Eves 8pm Thu & Sat mats 3pm

ALDWYCH BO/CC 071 836 6404 CC 497 9977 (24hr/with bkg fee)
"AN ALMOST UNBEARABLE JOY" Daily Mail
MAGGIE SMITH
ALEX JENNINGS RICHARD E. GRANT
SUSANNAH HARKER CLAIRE SKINNER
RICHARD PEARSON
MARGARET TYZACK
THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
by OSCAR WILDE
Dir by NICHOLAS HYTNER
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Wed+Sat 2.30
"A PERFECT EVENING" FT

APOLLO VICTORIA SS cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188 cc 24hr 071 344 4444/497 9977 071 379 9901 Groups 930 6123
"Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail
White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00
Tickets from £9.00 - £28.00

APOLLO BO/CC 071 494 5070/071 344 4444/497 9977
Penelope Wilton
Linus Roache Nicholas Jones
THE DEEP BLUE SEA
by TERENCE RATTIGAN
KAREL REISZ'S masterly production is a REVELATION S. Times
"An overwhelming dramatic experience" D. Tel
Eves 7.45 Mat Wed 3 Sat 4 & 8

COMEDY BO/CC 071 867 1045/071 344 4444/497 9977
BEST REVIVAL
BEST ACTOR
Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards
Paul Eddington Harold Pinter
NO MAN'S LAND
by Harold Pinter
"This production is A MAJOR EVENT: No one should miss it. If you've seen it, SEE IT AGAIN" Sun Times
Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5

To place your ENTERTAINMENT advert in
THE TIMES
TRADE 071-481 1920
FAX 071-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE 071-481 4000

CRITERION BO/cc 839 4488 (cc 24hr no fee) 344 4444 /cc with fee) 071-497 9977 Grps 930 6123
JULIE T WALLACE NIGEL LE VAILLANT
MISERY
Based on Stephen King's novel Written & dir. by Simon Moore
"Gripping Stuff"
"If You Can Take It" S. Tel
Eves 8, Wed Mat 3, Sat Mat 4
Mon Eves & Wed Mats Top Seats only £12.50

DOMINION CC HOTLINE 071 413 1411 (24hr) Information 071 580 8845/9562
GREASE
Starring CRAIG McLACHLAN
Prevs 5 July Opens 15 July

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071 494 5001/344 4444/240 7200/379 9901 Grps 831 8626/494 5454
MISS SAIGON
"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"
NOW IN ITS 4TH SENSATIONAL YEAR
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs apply B.O.
FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS/PERSONAL CALLERS 071 494 5060 BKG FEE

CALL 071-481 1920
To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

DUCHESS cc 071 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) Groups 071-413 3321
Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30
NOW IN ITS 3RD YEAR
"A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std
DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER
"Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORKS 071 836 5122 cc 836 9837/497 9977/071 344 4444 Grps 930 6123
NIGEL DAVENPORT
PETER CAPALDI
CHARLOTTE ATTENBOROUGH
"Clive Exton's stage version maintains the suspense... a master of the craft" F.T
The Stage Premiere of AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
MURDER IS EASY
"Enough red herrings to feed the five thousand" D. Mail
Eves 8.00 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00

FORTUNE BO & CC 836 2238 CC 344 4444/497 9977/379 9901 (24hr/bkg fee) Grs 413 3321
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
"A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian
"A REAL THRILL" S. Times
"Takes tranquillisers" T. Out
Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tue 3 Sat 4
NOW BOOKING TO JUNE

GARRICK BO/CC 494 5085/497 9977 (no fee) 071 344 4444 (fee)
Nomination 1993 Olivier Award
BEST COMEDY
"The outstanding comedy hit of the season" S. Exp.
PAUL BOWN IVAN KAYE
ON THE PISTE
JOHN GODBER'S New hit comedy
"HYSTERICALLY FUNNY" Today
Mon-Sat 8 mats Thu 3 Sat 4

GLOBE BO/CC 071 494 5067 (bkg fee)071 344 4444/497 9977
MARTIN SHAW
Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards
Peter Hall's haunting and revelatory production" E Std
Anna Carteret Michael Denison
Hannah Gordon Dulcie Gray
Martin Shaw David Yelland
OSCAR WILDE'S
AN IDEAL HUSBAND
A triumph... audiences are advised to beat a path to the Globe" S. Times
Eves 7.45 Mats Thu 3, Sat 4

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 071 930 8800 (inc cc no bkg fee) 071 344 4444 (with bkg fee)
ROBERT LINDSAY
"SUPERB" D Exp
"A SHINING STAR" Indp
CYRANO DE BERGERAC
"SPECTACULAR, SWASHBUCKLING... Marvellously Passionate" D Tel
adapted by JOHN WELLS
Directed by ELIJAH MOSHINSKY
Eves 7.30 Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3
NOW BOOKING TO MARCH 1994
APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS

To place your ENTERTAINMENT advert in
THE TIMES
TRADE 071-481 1920
FAX 071-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE 071-481 4000

LON. PALLADIUM 24hr Bo cc £1 per Tkt Svce chg 071 494 5020 071 344 4444/497 9977 Groups 494 5456
Andrew Lloyd Webber's "exuberant new production" Std of "Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's Palladium Blockbuster" Gdn
JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
Starring PHILLIP SCHOFIELD
Dir by STEVEN PIMLOTT
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
NOW BOOKING TO MAY 1 '93
QUEUE DAILY FOR RETURNS

LYRIC, Shaftes Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123
The Joint Never Stops Jumpin
FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE
THE OLIVIER AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
3RD GREAT YEAR
Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45
BOOKING UNTIL 2ND APR '95

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977
OLIVIER
Tomor (PREVIEW) 7.15
MACBETH
Shakespeare
LYTTELTON
Rodgers and Hammerstein's CAROUSEL Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.15. Day seats and returns only. (LAST PERFS)
COTTESLOE
Ton't & Tomor 7.00
MR 'A's AMAZING MAZE PLAYS
Alan Ayckbourn

NEW LONDON Drury Lane BO 071 405 0072 CC 071 404 4079 24hr 344 4444. Groups 930 6123
This from: Pickfords Travel
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
SPECIAL SIGNED PERF FOR THE DEAF SAT 17 APRIL AT 3PM
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT.
Bars open at 6.45
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

OLD VIC 928 7616/344 4444
SANDRA SHAMAS
MY BOYFRIEND'S BACK AND THERE'S GONNA BE LAUNDRY
Canada's Hottest Comic
24-31 March, 1-3 April
TON'T AT 7PM - ALL SEATS £8

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977/071 793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123. Groups 071 494 1671
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 867 1044 867 1111/344 4444 (fee) 497 9977
BEST MUSICAL
ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS 1991
WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
"ASTONISHING" S Express
"...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY BO/CC 867 1118/071 344 4444/497 9977
Season Extended Thru Easter
"Popular Theatre at popular prices" Sunday Times
ROBIN
PRINCE OF SHERWOOD
"What a fantastic Musical" Capital
"Full of beans" F.T.
KIDS ALL SEATS £8
ADULTS £10 & £20!
Tue-Sat 7.30 Mats Thu Sat Sun 3

PLAYHOUSE 071-839 4401 Fax 839 8142 cc no fee 497 9977/344 4444 Grps 930 6123
"A ROLLS-ROYCE OF A FARCE" D.Telegraph
IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY
The new smash hit comedy by RAY COONEY
"My glasses steamed up with laughter" D. Exp
Tickets £5 - £16.60
Some Good Seats Avail Monday - Thursday
MON-FRI 8. SAT 5.30 & 8.30
Red. Price MATINEE THUR 3PM
Facilities for disabled
Easy Parking. In-House Restaurant Eat before or after the show
Combined Top-Price Ticket & Dinner £25

PRINCE OF WALES 071 839 5972 cc (24hr/no bkg fee) 836 2428 Groups 071 413 3321
CITY OF ANGELS
A New Musical by
Larry Gelbart Cy Coleman David Zippel
Directed by Michael Blakemore
RED PRICE PREVIEWS NOW £10.00 OFF ALL SEAT PRICES
Opens 30 March at 7.00
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 071 344 4444 Groups 930 6123
THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL COMEDY
CRAZY FOR YOU
"IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW" S. Times
Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00

ROYAL COURT 071 730 1745 /2554 cc 836 6122
FIRES IN THE MIRROR
Eves 8, Sat Mat 4

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (071 638 8891 cc Mon - Sun 9am-8pm)
BARBICAN THEATRE
THE BEGGAR'S OPERA
Previews from 1 April
THE PIT: THE SCHOOL OF NIGHT Previews from 31 March
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON (0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm)
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
HAMLET
Mon-Sat 6.30, Sat mat 12.30
SWAN THEATRE: RICHARD III
Mon-Sat 7.30, Sat mat 1.30
Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999.

TO PLACE YOUR ENTERTAINMENT ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES
TRADE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 1920
ADVERTISING FAX NO. 071-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 4000
MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

ROYALTY 071 494 5090 (24hrs)
CARACALLA DANCE COMPANY OF LEBANON
Eves 7.30 Sat mat 2.30 Oriental Midsummer Nights Dream
Thursday - Saturday ONLY

SHAFTESBURY CC 344 4444 (24hrs) BO & CC 379 5399 Grps 379 8818/413 3321 No bkg fees
BEST MUSICAL
Evening Standard Awards 1992
KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN
Nominated for 5 LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARDS including BEST MUSICAL
"A TRIUMPH... DEEPLY MOVING" Observer
Starring Chita Rivera, Brent Carver, Anthony Crivello
Directed by Harold Prince
Eves 8pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
H.G.P. PARKING Show/hotel deals on 081 422 6606

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 344 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0
41st Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO/CC 071 930 8800 (no bkg fee) cc 344 4444 (bkg fee)
MAUREEN LIPMAN ROSEMARY HARRIS
"A MAGIC COMBINATION" D.Mail
in
NEIL SIMON'S
LOST IN YONKERS
Directed by DAVID TAYLOR
"Fabulously funny, madly sad... UNIVERSAL APPEAL" D. Exp
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Wed+Sat 2.30

STRAND BO 071 930 8800 24hr CC 071-344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 413 3321/831 2771
A New Musical
LEONARDO
A PORTRAIT OF LOVE
Directed by Rob Bettinson
From 21 May

VAUDEVILLE 836 9987/071 344 4444 Grps 930 6123/413 3321
Best Entertainment OLIVIER AWARD NOMINATION
THE INVISIBLE MAN
"THE BEST FUN TO BE HAD IN THE WEST END" D. Mail
Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3
SEATS FROM £8.00

VICTORIA PALACE Box Off & CC (No bkg fee) 071 834 1317 CC (bkg fee)071-344 4444/240 7200 Groups 071 930 6123
BUDDY
The Buddy Holly Story
"BRILLIANT" Sun
BUDDY
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
BUDDY
Mon-Thur 8.00 Fri 5.30 & 8.30
Sat 5.00 & 8.30.
ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF
4th SENSATIONAL YEAR
OVER 1300 PERFORMANCES
BOOKING THROUGH 1993

WHITEHALL BO/CC 867 1119 /1111 071 344 4444/497 9977
Nomination 1993 Olivier Award
BEST ENTERTAINMENT
John Wells
William Gaunt Richard Kane
"GILES HAVERGAL'S brilliant adaptation of GRAHAM GREENE'S funniest novel" Obs.
TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT
"BRILLIANT An evening to treasure" F.T
Mon-Fri 8 Wed 3 Sat 5 & 8.15

WYNDHAMS BO/CC 867 1116 /071 344 4444/071 497 9977.
Nomination 1993 Olivier Award
BEST NEW PLAY
BEST ACTRESS
JUDI DENCH
Nomination 1993 Olivier Award
JUDI DENCH MICHAEL PENNINGTON
The acclaimed RSC Production of PETER SHAFFER'S brilliant new play" S. Times
THE GIFT OF THE GORGON
Directed by PETER HALL
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mat Sat 3

YOUNG VIC 928 6363cc344 4444
Arthur Miller's The Last Yankee
"Uniformly Splendid" D.Mail
"Masterful Production" S.Tim
Must end 17 April 8pm (mats 2.30)
Frm 22/4 James Wilby-The Trial

CALL 071-481 1920
To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

هكذا من الأصل



DANCE

Words might fail you

Diction
The Place

Why, I wondered, was a woman (seated just along from me) laughing out loud during much of Yolande Snaith's new work, while others sat silent, some with an occasional smile, others apparently gobsmacked by its peculiarities? Perhaps this was meant, after all, as some kind of private joke.

Let me tell you about some of its constituent parts. Robert Innes-Hopkins's designs provided what looked like a checkered floor, although later the white squares were revealed as black like the others, only covered in little pieces of paper which were blown aside by the cast waving cloths, and some of them later swept back with square bats checked red and white. There were also two tennis umpires' chairs.

These were occupied part of the time by two of the cast wrapped in long overcoats and muttering. At first I was convinced they were talking sheer gibberish, or maybe Finnish or some such, but eventually an English word sometimes became recognisable, and by the end you could hear every word — not that they made any more sense than before.

Anyway, these provided, presumably, the *Diction* of the title; although there was also some American speechifying in parts of David Coulter's soundtrack, which also included many ominous grunts, cracks and growls, besides some New Orleans jazz and possibly much more besides that did not sink in.

The eight performers included some dancers whom we know from other contexts to be excellent. What one could see of them (Mark Parry's lighting effects tended towards the obscurantist faction) was mainly restricted to simple actions, although the apparently statutory burst of energy towards the end had them swinging each other round.

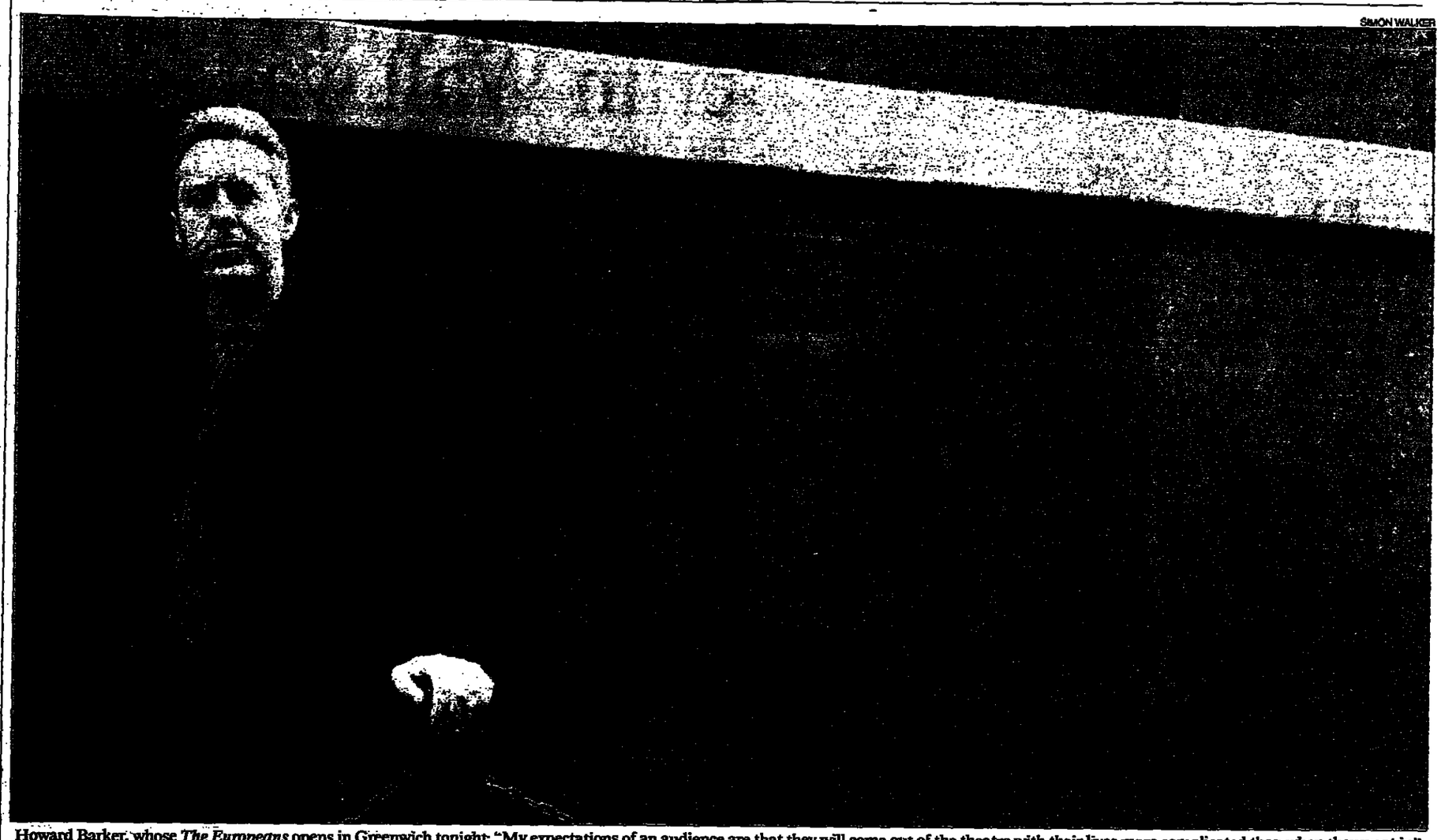
The most striking movement of the evening came with some tossing, one to another, of poles ringed in red and white: neatly caught until an apocalyptic moment when all the poles tumbled noisily to the floor while the dancers moved simultaneously away from centre stage.

Don't wait, by the way, for the striking costume and situation pictured in the production's publicity: it doesn't happen. This was true also of the latest production by Adventures in Motion Pictures; whatever happened to the advertising commission?

Diction is supported by Barclay New Stages Awards and the Arts Council.

JOHN PERCIVAL

THEATRE: **Joseph Williams** meets Howard Barker, dramatist and veteran *enfant terrible*



SIMON WALKER

Howard Barker, whose *The Europeans* opens in Greenwich tonight: "My expectations of an audience are that they will come out of the theatre with their lives more complicated than when they went in"

Developing a talent for making things difficult

Like *Macbeth*, Howard Barker has supped full with horrors. His plays are savage, dark and difficult. People walk out of them, disgusted at the obscenities. Those who stay can discover a poetic imagery as dense and as terrifying as Webster's, and an imagination as boundless.

Eschewed by the theatrical establishment, he is also persona non grata to television. Yet Barker is renowned internationally. His trilogy — *Crimes in Hot Countries*, *Downchild* and *The Castle* — mounted by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1985, was hugely successful, and leading actors such as Ian McDiarmid rate him among the best contemporary playwrights.

With *The Europeans* receiving its London premiere tonight in Greenwich, having played in Glasgow, Leicester and Sheffield, Barker is in an exhilarated mood. In the West End café where we met, he barely touched his sandwich. He was burning to issue a torrent of ideas. "I've never really courted the idea of being controversial," he says, with an intense look. "My attitude to the function of theatre is very different from conventional wisdom at the moment. I regard theatre as the last serious medium in which the possibility of contradiction and complexity is still permitted.

"Certainly, my expectations of an audience are that they will come out of the theatre with their lives more complicated than when they went in. The experience of watching theatre is actually to produce more problems in your life, not to diminish them; certainly, not to massage your existing ideological beliefs."

But what about theatre as pure entertainment? "Theatre seems to exist largely in terms of entertainment, and the idea of entertainment is associated with something mindless. I don't say my work is not entertainment, but you certainly wouldn't call it an easy night out."

Born 47 years ago in south London, the son of an industrial bookbinder, Barker read history at Sussex University. He shot to prominence in the Seventies, with tough plays about pimps, gangsters and underdogs — sombre portrayals of British society. He lashed conventional morality, throwing up scenarios that provoked the Royal Court audiences: a prison governor becomes an arsonist in *The Hang of the Gaol*, and the hero in *Claw* a procurer for the Home Secretary.

He bit deep into the unsavoury sides of human nature. *The Possibilities*, a set of playlets shown at the Almeida in 1988, featured torture, decapitation and infanticide. Is his view of humanity so bleak?

"I don't actually find pessimism a disturbing fact," he says. "The world is a bad place in many ways. When people have said to me my work is pessimistic or obscure, I have accepted those terms very willingly. It's obscure in the sense that it doesn't open easily to instant gratification."

He calls his work "catastrophic theatre in which there's no reassertion at the end of a collective power over a transgressive individual. In my world, the individual goes on uncorrected." He defends his combination of obscene language with poetic idiom as the voice he writes in: "One wouldn't complain about an artist who used too much blue paint."

He sees naturalism as "an exhausted form". And he rejects the notion of history offering any kind of objective truth. As in *Victory* — his jaundiced view of post-Restoration England with King Charles as a libertine beset by ruthless bankers — so in *The Europeans*, Barker makes no attempt to offer a definitive historical perspective.

> 'It's absurd that my work is never presented in the Olivier'

Set at the time of the siege of Vienna in 1683, *The Europeans* has parallels with the atrocities in the Balkans today. Pitting Christianity against Islam, Barker throws up two anti-heroes: Katrin, a mutilated victim of the Turks, and the general who falls in love with her. The text contains offensive language, and there are nude scenes.

"I don't obscure pain," says Barker. "Katrin refuses to reconcile herself to her pain. In many ways, to accept your pain and to swallow it, to forgive and to reconcile, is inhuman. My view of Katrin is that she's actually heroically human, and that maybe it's Christian morality which is inhuman in asking people to continually swallow whatever misfortunes befall them in the interests of some greater good."

Demonically aware of human depravity, Barker talks of an "instinct of contrariness in me sometimes to create a scene in which the governing idea is to reverse an obvious truth. Sometimes theatre must consist of reversal.

"I think theatre speculates on morality, it doesn't reproduce it. The morality of our times is beamed at us endlessly through television and pulp journalism, and the theatre seems to be a place where these things might be tested, even for their own sake. We may live in cultural disorder, but there's still an absolute governing convention of what constitutes good and bad action."

Barker is lucky to have a professional company (supported by the Arts Council) devoted exclusively to producing his work. Called the Wrestling School (as it wrestles with the dark themes of his plays) it is his lifeline: "It's crucial to my continuing existence in the English theatre, along with the Almeida."

He attacks those who refuse to produce his work with a passion that would be conceited were it not so ingenuous: "It's painful and absurd that my work is never presented in big national spaces like the Olivier."

So why has the National not espoused him? "It's partly a critical illiteracy on their part, but also I think it's an ideological matter. A national theatre must inevitably be in some collusion with the governing ideology of the state. It must be, that's why it's a national theatre. Therefore if it detects that even a major dramatist is not actually reproducing that ideology, it finds him hard to deal with. I can only explain it in those terms. You see. I'm not a liberal humanist writer."

He cites European poets such as Apollinaire and Mayakovsky as his influences, and he often produces his own versions of classic plays, such as Middleton's *Women Beware Women*. He laments that playwrights today rarely work on an epic scale: "It's very bad that younger dramatists are continually trained in the miniature."

Barker's epic style of theatre that forces you to think about issues may sound Brechtian, but Barker insists he is "totally opposed to the Brechtian idea of how the theatre functions. Brecht is an enlightener: I don't believe theatre enlightens people. I don't believe that artists have better judgments about how the world should operate than ordinary people."

● The Europeans *opens at Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10, tonight, and runs until April 17 (081-858-7755)*

FRINGE THEATRE

This is a dead Pierrot

Glassparts
BAC, Battersea

It is good in parts — good in the first few parts of Part 1 to be more precise. The latest one-man show by the mime and dance artist David Glass openly admits it is a double-bill. In *Glasseye*, objects take on a life of their own, manipulated by Glass himself, invisible in a head-to-toe black costume. All in white after the interval, he enacts *Pierrot in Love*, the mimed story of the pantalooned clown pining for his beloved Lulu.

Glassparts' subdivisions, however, ultimately leave an impression of unsatisfactory fragmentation. In Part 2, the basic narrative line of Pierrot waiting at home for a visit; telephone call or letter from Lulu keeps getting sidetracked into unrelated scenarios: a dance between a knife and spoon or an encounter with a snarling imaginary dog. So, too, the transition within *Glasseye* does not flow smoothly; comic sketches jar with the serious initial scenes performed without words.

Still, these shortcomings cannot annihilate the impact of the opening. A man-sized sheet of brass begins to quiver and then warp spasmodically, rumbling and then cracking like thunder. Sculpture and dance meet with total success. This short scene invites multiple readings: it could represent an ancient elemental god, or perhaps be a metaphor for inner emotions. As the sheet rises vertically, it might be an allegory for evolution or for an individual's maturation. Next, a strip of white plastic, glowing and dimming, undulates endlessly. It wriggles like a primeval creature or spins like a planet, recalls abstract forms, and flickers between a serpentine "S" and an omega.



Man of many parts: David Glass at work in *Glassparts*

Such moments are mesmerising: seemingly simple, but actually sophisticated in their ambiguity and technically superb. Glass's physical skills are finely tuned. The calibre of his work, however, falls off when facial expressions and words come into play. The former look clumsily exaggerated in the close-up space of studio theatre, and his dialogue degenerates into humour more appropriate to children's theatre.

Comedy is not Glass's forte and the Pierrot play offers little more than the standard fare of Parisian street performers. After a breathtaking beginning, *Glassparts* lamentably lapses into cliché.

KATE BASSETT

OPERA: **Gerald Larner** sees the Opéra de Nantes failing to do justice to a difficult piece by Chabrier

Good work all undone

What is to be done with *Le Roi malgré lui*? There are passages in Chabrier's score as inspired as anything written for the Opéra Comique in the 19th century, not excluding *Carmen*. The libretto, on the other hand, is a mess.

Unlike virtually every company which has revived the opera since 1929, when Albert Carré's revision for the Opéra Comique was so unwisely adopted by Chabrier's publishers as the official version, the Opéra de Nantes has concluded that there is nothing to be done except to go back to the original, for this new production in the handsome Théâtre Graslin. Very little of the music has been left out, and the text, whatever its weaknesses, at least has the virtue of being the one that Chabrier set.

So it is a pity that, having gone so far in the right direction, and having assembled a more than competent cast, the production team has failed to acknowledge the quality of the music. It is legitimate to romp through *L'Etoile*, Chabrier's *opéra bouffe* — as Opera North so charmingly demonstrated a couple of years ago. But his *opéra comique* is more mature, more ambitious, and, at significant moments between the parody and the caricature, very much closer to the truth — as Opera North will have the opportunity to demonstrate when it performs the work to mark the centenary of the composer's death next year.

The emotion which inspired the homesick string writing before the first entry of Henri de Valois (the King of Poland in spite of himself) has to be valued for what it is rather than upstaged by a postman on roller skates attempting to make an exit on tiptoe. When the parted lovers, Minka and Nangis, are ecstatically reunited, the moment must be savoured rather than sent up by having Nangis rendered immobile with his fingers trapped in the letter box which has long since become a tiresome source of distraction.



Fluent performer: Franck Leguerinel as Henri de Valois

The wonder is that in this comic-strip production by Olivier Desbordes, and in Jean-Pierre Capeyron's distressingly silly costumes, the singers could bear to be heard let alone seen.

In fact, Natalie Dessay luxuriates in the coloratura role of Minka and sings particularly attractively in her duets with the similarly fluent Leonard Pezzini as Nangis, and Franck Leguerinel as Henri. Elisabeth Procuronoff is an amusingly formidable Alexina, and Marc Bernard blusters acceptably in the gratuitous comic role of Fritelli.

The Nantes chorus looks even worse than the principals in Capeyron's costumes, but, in an unusually important role, sounds twice as big as its numbers would suggest. Indeed, Valentin Reymond has secured from his singers and his expert little orchestra a performance which deserves a similarly sensitive production.

CONCERT: Britten and his contemporaries at the Barbican

Out of another country

TIME and place were significant elements in the music Jeffrey Tate conducted in his Anglo-American programme with the English Chamber Orchestra at the Barbican. They were most specific in *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, perhaps Samuel Barber's most completely beautiful work in which a child's voice speaks through the man in this dream-like setting.

Roberta Alexander's idiomatic voicing of the words about family security and everyday things was poised on a stream of liquid tone and polished phrasing, though at times she seemed to be offering not the child's view of an adult world so much as a more sophisticated recollection of it.

The American soprano was no less at home in her graceful verbal inflection of Rimbaud's French verse for Britten's youthful *Les Illuminations*. Some admirers prefer a woman's voice to a man's in these images of fantasy, as they were sung originally, and strong support was given here to this view, even though a more fevered delivery in certain songs would have reinforced their hallucinatory character.

The string textures of their accompaniment were keenly balanced by the conductor so as to bring out the fastidious inner detail of Britten's invention, and he likewise pointed the vigour and colour of the fuller orchestration in Britten's last purely orchestral work, the Suite on English Folk Tunes.

More exotic places were located in Copland's *Three Latin American Sketches*, which made a lively if not sufficiently coruscating start to the programme. It ended in the crazily layered textures of *Three Places in New England* by Ives.

NOEL GOODWIN

The South Bank Centre presents



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Simon Rattle conductor
Royal Festival Hall at 7.30pm
27 March Schoenberg, Stravinsky, Janáček
1 April Busoni, Bartók, Sibelius, Szymanowski

LONDON SINFONIETTA
Jonathan Nott conductor
Queen Elizabeth Hall at 7.45pm
30 March Stravinsky, Berg, Milhaud, Weill

TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM
THE DECADE 1921 - 1930

Tel: 071-928 8800

Registered Charity

How was Germany reunified? **Gina Thomas** thinks historians should look to the streets

What the Berlin Wall was for

Dr Johnson made one of his less perceptive assertions when he told Boswell that "great abilities are not requisite for an Historian... imagination is not required in any high degree". But history cannot thrive without imagination, since the sources only ever reveal part of the truth. The historian cannot arrive at a full picture without intuition. If his narrative is to have any authenticity, he must strike a delicate balance between knowledge and imagination. Mastery of the documentary evidence is not enough.

Germany Divided falters on precisely that point. The American academic James McAdams has drawn on extensive archival material, secondary sources and interviews with officials on both sides of the German divide for his painstaking chronicle of inter-German relations in the 40 years leading from partition in the wake of the second world war to the collapse of the Berlin wall and reunification. The book charts the emergence of two separate states which, after initial attempts on each side to rescind the division in its interest, grew ever further apart, before finally coming together again after 1989.

In the interim lay years of rigid rhetoric, followed by a period of gradual accommodation to the status quo in which the prospect of unification became ever more faint. At first the two sides competed for stewardship of the German national cause. McAdams sets out to show how the GDR was driven by ideology and straightened circumstances to abandon common ties, seeing greater advantage for the communist regime in emphasising the issues that separated the two Germanys: while the Federal Republic came, in the author's view, to pay little more than lip service to the concept of reunification.

McAdams describes this process in great detail, but with a curious lack of understanding. There are many examples for this, two of which are worth pointing out. The two postwar leaders of divided Germany, Adenauer and Ulbricht, are portrayed as antagonists who clung to their policies with the same degree of obstinacy, never considering a compromise. On a superficial level that is true, but a historian who fails to take into account the political background cannot do justice to the motives for Adenauer's intransigence.

The Soviet Union was at that time filled with an unquenched thirst for territorial expansion. Stalin's successes in central Europe nourished hopes of conquering West Germany and possibly even the rest of Europe. With this aim in mind the Soviet Union was persistently trying to drive a wedge between the Federal Republic and the Western powers. In the maelstrom of postwar politics, Adenauer never wavered in his policy of anchoring the fledgling republic firmly in the West. This is why the German Chancellor did not hesitate to reject the much-disputed Stalin note of 1952, even though he angered some of his closest followers. Adenauer saw Stalin's démarche as a ploy to sabotage the Federal Repubic's membership of the short-lived European Defence Community and to stop West Germany joining Nato (which it did in 1955). McAdams treats this incident, which has always puzzled historians, in a cursory manner.

GERMANY DIVIDED
From the Wall to Reunification
By A. James McAdams
Princeton, £20

Another example of the author's failure to see things in context can be found in his comments on Helmut Kohl's "Ten-Point Plan" of November 1989, which outlined the course of German unity. Because Kohl emphasised "the broader transnational goals" of his government and avoided the word "confederation" throughout his declaration before the Bundestag, McAdams concludes that he "wanted to slow the march to national unity by confining it with certain commonly defined parameters". According to McAdams, Kohl "was at a loss to predict what the next development would be between the two Germanys". The author never considers what reaction a less diplomatically-phrased and more open statement of intent would have provoked in eastern Europe and Moscow, not to mention the effect it would have had on the western allies with their heightened sensitivity to any display of German assertiveness.

One need only remember how the nervous representatives of the four powers hastily convened in Berlin in December 1989 to discuss the new situation, how in that same month Mitterrand sped to Kiev for a meeting with Gorbachev and then on to Dresden and Berlin, hoping to stall the process that had been set in motion, or at least find a solution other than reunification. And of course Margaret Thatcher's reservations on this subject are well known. But all this seems to elude the author. Intent on proving his thesis that unification could have happened far sooner, he has succumbed to the myopia that comes from staring too intently at the files.

Similarly, McAdams ignores the historical significance of the bond between Germans on both sides of the divide which survived four decades of separation. It was, after all, the ordinary citizens of the GDR who took to the streets with banners proclaiming "We are one people". But McAdams only has eyes for diplomatic correspondence, missives and agreements. Perhaps he should have averted his gaze from all that paperwork and brought to mind that the Wall and the border were, paradoxically, symbols of the German feeling of togetherness, for if Germany had also been inwardly divided these barriers would have been superfluous.

There is another element lacking in this turgid book. The footnotes reveal that the author was in Germany in 1989. He often refers to conversations he had there with political functionaries, but nowhere does he give a sense of those peaceful eruptions which followed one another in rapid succession and reached a dramatic climax in October 1989. But Germany has left its mark on McAdams. His prose is full of stodgy Germanic constructions and he writes in that dry style which some political scientists seem to relish but which drives the reader to distraction.

Gina Thomas is a correspondent for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. She lives in London

Buttering royal slices of bread

Veronica Maclean travelled for two years, seeking interviews with the 27 crowned heads left in the world. She was miffed at being curtly turned down by King Baudouin of the Belgians. His grandparents had often visited Beaufort, home of Clan Fraser of Lovat (of which Lady Maclean is a member) when she was a child. Only slightly mollified by learning the King had been ill, she comments that he "represents a monarchy which is an anachronism and which may well disappear with his eventual demise". The Dutch court chamberlain politely told her interviews were never given by Queen Beatrix — wise lady. So this Queen escapes criticism.

In Tonga she missed her appointment with the King by forgetting to adjust her watch to local time; another couldn't be arranged during her brief stay. Tonga is then compared unfavourably with neighbouring Samoa, where the King gave her "magnificent carrot cake" as well as "delicious sandwiches".

Lady Maclean is susceptible to regal sandwiches. When sitting with the Grand Duke of Luxembourg "delicate little sandwiches were brought in". He and his family are friends of the Lovats and he does not give interviews. This was just a friendly visit, "and I tucked into another delicious sandwich to prove it". However, what he said is here. He escaped when Hitler occupied Luxembourg in May 1940 and fought with the Guards Armoured Brigade in Normandy. With his father he marched at the head of the allied troops liberating Luxembourg in September 1944. Four days later this very decent man rejoined his regiment to fight in the battle of Arnhem. Deservedly popular with his subjects, Lady Maclean awards him her certificate of security of tenure.

I hope the delightful Lady Maclean will forgive me for teasing her a little. But I think her brother, Hugh Fraser, whom I first met at Oxford when we were both 18 and remained close friends with until he died, would have been amused. Actually I was fascinated by her adventures in royalty and her skill at interviewing with the correct balance of formality and informality. She got it from her own experience and that of her family, some of whom have been this, that and the other at the Palace.

The one she was most nervous of meeting for the first time was the Emperor of Japan. She was sternly told the topics to avoid. Luckily there was "a tiny white porcelain cup of some delicious golden liquid" which she and the Imperial couple sipped. The Empress remembered Lady Maclean's cousin who had been in Japan as wife of the British ambassador. "We are off!" Soon the Emperor darted away to fetch books to identify a Japanese lily for Lady Maclean. Forbidden topics, much as his connection with Shintoism and its royal ritual, were no longer barred. Some of her questions verged almost on the impertinent. Lady Maclean veered dangerously near that invisible line which must not be crossed when talking to the crowned head of a great nation. Perhaps it was the arrival of "the prettiest sweetmeats I have ever seen" which set her off. The Emperor is a thoughtful intellectual with great dignity and common sense. Near godlike, he guides the Japanese through their recurring emotional and psychological difficulties, which are considerable. The Emperor believes this supreme task is the sole justification for his existence. Japan is lucky to have him, as readers will see from Veronica Maclean's brilliant account of her meeting with him and his Empress.

Woodrow Wyatt

CROWNED HEADS
By Veronica Maclean
Hodder & Stoughton, £25

She is equally perceptive and understanding of the Queen, the Queen Mother and the Prince of Wales, though she refused the offer of a cup of tea from Prince Charles (well, it couldn't have matched the exotic stuff she had been getting elsewhere). Mercifully, she records no conversation with the Princess of Wales. She believes, as I do, that despite his present troubles, Prince Charles will make a first-class sovereign. There is much here that is new about our top royal trio which should dispel the nonsense peddled by the media and republicans who foolishly believe our monarchy is obsolete.

Lady Maclean gives encouraging and sound advice for monarchs everywhere on how to ensure the continuity of their thrones, without treading over the invisible line encircling them. I recommend the book to them and their subjects. It is informative and entertaining: not only about crowned heads but on how much better it is to keep them on rather than chop them off.

Lord Wyatt of Weeford is chairman of the Tote.



Egon Schiele, *Portrait of the Artist's Mother*: a tender study dated 1918, the year Schiele died of influenza aged 28. From Erwin Mitsch, *Egon Schiele* (paperback reissue, Phaidon, £19.95)

Is there life after liberalism?

Not an easy book, this, to sum up. It is a sequel to the author's fascinating *Liberalisms: Essays In Political Philosophy*, which established him as one of our liveliest and most profound political philosophers. It consists of 20 essays, articles and reviews, the last of which, "What is dead and what is living in liberalism", is published here for the first time. They naturally contain a few repetitions, contradictions and changes of mind (as about the survival of totalitarianism in Russia) and a few oddities, such as Gray's repeated characterisation of intense voluptuousness as incompatible with a life devoted to long-term projects, but nonetheless a genuine human good all the same. Gray chides modern liberals for endangering their own survival by despising pre-liberal virtues. Is not continence one of these?

His writings are directed at sharply differing audiences. They thus differ in the amount of erudition expected of the reader. Some are for ordinary mortals, if it is not blasphemy thus to describe the mandarin readers of *The Times Literary Supplement*. Others were unloaded on Gray's philosophical peers, polymaths who are never happier than when chucking great abstract polysyllables at each other.

John Gray is worth a bit of trouble. There is gold on almost every page and in fact a unifying golden thread runs right through the lot. Gray has declared his allegiance to "the civil society", for him a sort of Holy City now in mortal danger everywhere. This is not least from its false friends like American liberals, to whose arbitrary and illiberal antics (positive discrimination and the rest) he devotes much powder and shot.

What characterises the civil society? It includes tolerance of diversity, the rule of law, limited government, the institution of private and several property, free market exchanges, voluntary association and so on. All this constitutes a complex device which secures peace by reducing the number of decisions which must be collectively taken and then become binding on all.

The civil society obviously can't survive in a totalitarian state. An authoritarian state, by contrast, it finds tolerable, even comfortable, provided it be tolerant. Gray finds much to praise in the later Russian tsars. Often and falsely denounced for having bequeathed to the Bolsheviks the idea and apparatus of a totalitarian state, they presided in fact over an increasingly liberal civil society, which the Bolsheviks wilfully and brutally destroyed.

Baffled by an English menu, the Bavarian politician Franz Josef Strauss once bade his host choose for him, "provided it is big". Any form of government will suit John Gray, "provided it is little". Gray placidly sees as the best hope for countries like Brazil and Argentina, devastated by collectivism, a continuation of weak government with a thriving "informal economy". Just what Dr Gray ordered.

Asked what he thought should be accomplished by a fourth Thatcher government, the late Nicholas Ridley replied: "Nothing. That is the correct policy for a government." Gray would, I fancy, recognise here a kindred spirit, with one very important reservation. The government must positively create, enforce and preserve the legal and other conditions within which nothing more need urgently be done.

Colin Welch

POST-LIBERALISM
Studies in Political Thought
By John Gray
Routledge, £35

Gray warns the emerging eastern European states that the civil society, though absolutely necessary for their survival and prosperity, does not spontaneously create itself wherever collectivism is removed. Here I for one was wrong. I have regarded the free market economy as a natural state of affairs, to which humanity would revert the moment the shackles of totalitarianism were knocked off. I was misled by the reassuring experience of western Germany after Hitler's demise — an experience to which Gray devotes some thought.

Passionate for liberty, Gray is less passionate for democracy and self-determination. His liberty is freedom to do what you like within the law, not freedom to participate by right in the central institutions of a political order. Gray further warns emergent eastern Europe against slavishly copying the mass democracies of the west, with their omnicompetent (thus incompetent) state, with their political life dominated by competition for state-controlled resources, with their governments thus at once weak and inordinate. Democracy, Gray adds, must be limited, liberty must be limited to be enjoyed. He bids eastern Europeans to read de Tocqueville, Benjamin Constant and the Great Scots, not Rawls, Dworkin and other decadent successors. I advise them to read Gray.

In the land of fighting ghosts

Ben Okri writes beautifully. His winning of the 1991 Booker Prize for *The Famished Road* was a triumph of inspiration over the everyday. His prose is dense with pungent metaphor, sometimes whimsical, sometimes bawdy, sometimes so fraught with wild visions that his narrative threatens to explode under the pressure of its own exuberance. Whether you consider him flamboyantly poetic, or merely self-indulgent, Okri is an original.

But there is a problem. Who is he really writing for? There's no doubt that *The Famished Road* came from a profound need to actualise a precipitous visionary energy. A convulsive and semi-autobiographical mode such as his has its surface attractions, and if you care to look closely, plenty of deeper intricacies.

If there was anything wrong with *The Famished Road*, it was not so much that it was too long — though long, at 500 pages, it certainly was — as that it assumed the reader automatically wanted the high-octane intimacy offered by Okri's strange African spirit-family: no breathers. Big visions in a tight circle risk reading like an author talking to himself. Dante chose heaven, hell and purgatory; Okri has a village.

After winning a major prize for your first novel, of course, it is an insuperable task to come up with a book that many will care for. From the moment he collected his Booker cheque, Okri had an uphill fight on his hands.

A fight, however, of supernatural dimensions is what we had at the end of the last novel, and its shadow looms over the opening pages of *Songs of Enchantment*. The father — "Dad" — of *The Famished Road* (though for some curious copy-editorial reason he has now become "dad") is recuperating after his duel with a certain "man from the Land of Fighting Ghosts", and in the new novel he attempts to hit the straight and narrow.

Songs of Enchantment is an undisguised sequel to *The Famished Road*, though weighs in at just over half the length. Okri's child-narrator Azaro once more faces his father's indigence, his mother's virtual slavery, and his own susceptibility to believe that what he sees in his head is the violent stuff of reality. The contingent world is still defined by the family abode, Madame Koto's bar-brothel, Sami's betting-shop, and sundry creditors and predators.

That, in essence, is the setting *and* the plot. Okri's style of storytelling is to bunch together a series of startling natural and not-so-natural images, drawn largely from a primeval African landscape, and let them stand as little parables. Each one effects its own magic — or not, as the case may be, depending on your resistance to Okri's relentless prestidigitation.

If anything, the colours of *Songs of Enchantment* are splashier, the liquids slimier, the visions more hideous than those of *The Famished Road*. People invade each other's dreams more unforgivingly, things grow faster and to more gigantic proportions than before. To be blunt, erections (even if they are of the spirit-world) are vaster, and the sex is more like war. Giving himself just under 300 pages to pack it all in, you get the sense that Okri has to compensate by triple-fold intensification; you therefore sometimes find yourself begging him to calm down.

James Woodall

SONGS OF ENCHANTMENT
By Ben Okri
Jonathan Cape, £14.99

His story here is really an involved metaphor for birth and growth, a kind of crazed nurture. And to say that his metaphors are mixed is to understate the case: "I was knocked about in the old man's dream of a dying country that had not yet been born" announces Azaro at one point, and you can only sympathise with his ontological confusion.

It would be churlish to trivialise Okri's bold experimentation. But if there is one other major problem with his writing, it is that he risks parody, or more precisely self-parody. Things like this: "Masks multiplied into our nights. We saw crocodile faces turning red. Antelope faces changed into the expressions of hyenas. We ceased to be aware of the numbers of the dead. We began to live with ghosts and spirits. Our night-spaces began to crawl with other presences." And so on: ours not to reason why, perhaps, but all this metamorphosis might be coming too easy to its creator.

Okri's is a challenging voice in British fiction, and he will write other important novels. If *Songs of Enchantment* isn't quite that, then it may be because he has been forced to let off more steam than is strictly necessary.

James Woodall is the author of In Search of the Firedance *(Sinclair-Stevenson)*



MARTIN BEDDALL

Ben Okri, overlooked by Perseus: relentless prestidigitation

AUTHORS
Your Book Published
All subjects including, Memoirs, Religion, Poetry, Children's Stories and Fiction. New Authors Welcome
THE ADELPHI PRESS (Dept.A.11), 4/6 ESKE RD, LONDON SW6 1TD.

Monday Books
A new Philip Roth, *Operation Shylock*, opera and art books plus paperbacks

هكذا من الأصل

Seth's subcontinent of a novel

Vikram Seth has been puffed as a latter-day Tolstoy. After reading his novel about India, Daniel Johnson is not disappointed

For once, the publisher's hype was not hyperbole. *A Suitable Boy* is not, as Salman Rushdie was reported to have told its author to his face, "a soap opera". Though Seth is so readable that his work is bound to be seen as less highbrow than *Midnight's Children* or *The Satanic Verses*, his novel is no less literary an artefact. Nor does it deserve to be accused — as it will be — of escapism: there is no nostalgia for the Raj, however understated, in this novel, but neither is it an anti-imperial polemic. It is a work in the tradition of 19th-century realism, filtered through a late 20th-century sensibility.

A SUITABLE BOY
By Vikram Seth
Phoenix House, £20

A Suitable Boy is not merely one of the longest novels in English: it may also prove to be the most fecund as well as the most prodigious work of the latter half of this century — perhaps even the book to restore the serious reading public's faith in the contemporary novel. I have little doubt that, at the age of 41, Vikram Seth is already the best writer of his generation.

There is no narrator; indeed, the author speaks rarely and only in the most subdued voice possible. But because Seth is of his generation, he cannot write on such an ambitious scale without an occasional glance in the looking glass. One of the many running jokes in this genial comedy of Indian manners concerns the character who most resembles the author, the poet Amit Chatterji, who is writing a novel-within-the-novel. This device occasions both self-referential similes — the novel is like the Ganges, the banyan tree, and so on — and also enables Seth to have some gentle fun with other writers. There are glimpses of the tribulations of living with such an undertaking, the selfish aloofness which makes the writer such an unsuitable suitor.

The principal leitmotif of the novel, its trunk, is the story of how one woman, Lata Mehra, finds a "suitable" husband. Because this is India in 1950, the quest unavoidably embraces her widowed mother, Mrs Rupa Mehra, her sister Savita and brothers Arun and Varun, their spouses' families, the earnest Kapoors and the chattering Chatterjis, and ultimately other clans as well: four family trees are given at the beginning. A mere 1,349 pages of births, deaths, festivals, riots, elections, trials and love affairs later, Lata marries.

But to call this novel a love story would be as facile as love usually is in real life: Lata makes up her mind which of her three main suitors she wants to marry only in the final pages of the book. So what is *A Suitable Boy* about?

At a metaphysical level, Lata's choice of husband might be said to resolve a triangular conflict between the practical, the erotic and the contemplative principles. But the book gently satirises such schematic criticism in the shape of the Brahmpur literary society, which hears papers with titles such as "Eliot: Whither?"

At the most basic level, however, the book is about India: but not just the picturesque India of a hundred films. The novel's treatment of India's first general election, of the complexities of post-imperial land reform, and of the tensions between Indians and foreigners in industry and commerce, is masterly.



TIM BISHOP

Vikram Seth: an unsuitable suitor. "Oh, I don't know how it grew to be so long," said Amit. "I'm very undisciplined. But I too hate long books: the better, the worse."

Through his imaginary city of Brahmpur, Seth depicts India as a perpetual pitched battle. This is not only a matter of religious communal strife, though some of the best passages in the book evoke the awfulness of religious celebrations gone wrong, the ravenous blood-lust of the mob, the unhealed wounds of partition only three years before the novel opens. But Seth is just as interested in the quieter struggles and feuds being fought out in legislatures, university departments, shoe factories, villages, clubs, households, parties.

Above all parties: Seth has a particular gift for making conversation of any kind believable, as he already proved in his virtuoso verse-novel about San Francisco, *The Golden Gate*. But in *A Suitable Boy* he excels himself in rendering the variations in the texture of social intercourse, not merely between the incompatible microcosms of a caste society, but among acquaintances.

It might be frowned upon nowadays to write about England with such unabashed emphasis upon class distinctions, such attention to the nuances of prejudice; authors and readers conspire to pretend that a classless society ought to exist, even if it does not. But India soon after independence is another matter. Seth's honesty, his confidence that the whole of India's virtues are more than the sum of her vices, enables him to observe the cruel niceties of Indian society, whether in Calcutta or the provinces, with the zest of a Trollope or a Waugh.

Seth employs his psychological dexterity to create a huge cast of characters, the least significant of whom has as much life as the most. Oddly enough, the only figure who seems two-dimensional is also the only portrait from life: Jawaharlal Nehru. But though his offstage presence is felt throughout the book, the Pandit's only flesh-and-blood appearance is brief. His principles are represented by Mahesh Kapoor, the Revenue Minister, who is a superb study in the original, uncorrupted spirit of what has been India's dominant political tradition, the Congress.

Yet though Seth deploys his knowledge of politics, the law and economics to great effect, it is in the domestic and romantic spheres that he shines most brilliantly. One tour de force succeeds another: a bewitching performance of the singer and courtesan Saeeda Bai sets an emotional ball rolling which will crush several lives in the end: Lata's three suitors meet at a Test match, without being fully aware that they are rivals.

But Seth is no mere salon wit. This book plumbs the depths, whether he is writing about what goes through the mind of the daughter of a nawab living in purdah when she is surprised by the police at the door; Lata's nameless dread inspired by the nocturnal prowling of a seemingly avuncular relative. There is the Ganges itself, where the comical holy men are only a diversion from the dark mysteries which exert their power even over an author inclined to secular rationalism: "Quietly they moved down the calm and sacred river that had come down to earth so that its waters might flow over ashes of those long dead, and that would continue to flow long after the human race had, through hatred and knowledge, burned itself out."

Is not life too short for novels that take busy people many weeks to read? And yet once is not enough. The magnanimous humanity embodied in this Taj Mahal of a book will disclose itself fully only with meticulous re-reading. Daunting as *A Suitable Boy* is, you should make time for it. It will keep you company for the rest of your life.

Praveen Moman on the lost India of Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy*

"I would like to return to India. My daughter [Harvard educated] is becoming too independent. I would like her to get married. It doesn't have to be an arranged marriage. I just want her settled..." The comments of this Indian lady — I met her by chance last week — go to the soul of an Indian mother. Like a latter day version of Lata's mother, her concerns were living testimony that the world of *A Suitable Boy* was in some measure alive.

The baroque, mannered, world described in Seth's work may seem wooden and archaic. To the Indian of Seth's generation — part traditional and part *déraciné* — the chronicle brings back all the rich *rasa* (flavour) of a dimly remembered period. The warm, enveloping families with their hierarchy of relationships come alive through his characters.

Equally, the chaotic cultural mire of India at independence is represented faithfully. Like Nehru, many characters in this north Indian tale were, to varying extents, "Muslims by *culture*, Hindu by religion and English by education" and had to glide through these different worlds. Their basic framework is provided by elaborate Hindu socio-religious codes, imbibed in childhood. Tales from the *Vedas*, the later epics — the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharat* — all subtly conditioned their behaviour.

The legacy of the thousand year presence of Muslims, and in particular the grand Mughul *durbars* show through the Persian sense of *tameez* (etiquette). Poignant Urdu poetry, especially *ghazals* (verse in rhyming couplets) and romantic liaisons with courtesans were the natural pastimes of the *nawabi* classes, especially as they became powerless. The characters also have an English veneer, having absorbed the language, values and snobbery of the ruler. This hybrid personality allowed them to participate in age-old Hindu rites, greet elders in the assured inflection of high Urdu and discuss James Joyce.

Fifty years on, the tussle between these three influences continues. The urban upper classes have become more modern and caste has yielded to secularism, although this is now being challenged by Hindu revivalism.

Following partition and the decline of the *nawabi* class, only remnants of Urdu culture remain, largely in Pakistan. The leisurely recitation, reclining on bolsters on the floor, of ghazals on youth, love and beauty has gone with the age of the sofa and chairs. Hindu-Muslim relations continue as before: in part there are tensions, as recent events show. The people of "the Book" remain philosophically at odds with those whom they dismiss as "idolators". But the lives of both communities, despite the rise of fundamentalism, are deeply interlocked as they were in Lata's days, through a shared cultural background.

Certain traditional values remain important, even in "modern families". Conversation still centres around births, deaths and marriages. Respect for elders, and a belief in *karma* remain, as well as the extended family. A Hindu mother's overriding imperative remains that her daughter, like the mythical Sita, an ideal of "chastity, purity and faithfulness", be found a suitable boy, that indefinable quantity. "Love marriage" and inter-caste marriages are more accepted, as long as the family's *izat* (respect) remains; extra-marital affairs are still frowned upon. In traditional families The old rules still have a much tighter grip, as the pages of matrimonial advertisements in Indian newspapers show.

The biggest change during this period is in the attitude of the daughters. Education, independence and discovery of equal rights mean they want to control their own fate much more than Lata's generation did. Many modern Indian women will see Seth's romanticism of the past through rather bitter eyes.

Ironically, Seth's great English novel symbolises India's own culture. Literature, music, poetry and folk culture are still all declining in the indigenous languages. The *ustads* (masters) who created them are marginalised. In its place has come an English-speaking élite who describe with lyricism the civilisation of their country, but are unable to contribute to it themselves in the original idioms. Freed by western thought, they have also lost their own culture. As the great *ghazal* writer, Ghalib, once said: "Time once lost cannot be brought back."

Falling for an Oxford doctor

Alison Roberts

MICHAEL, MICHAEL
By Wendy Perriam
HarperCollins, £14.99

Wendy Perriam is moreish in a satisfying sort of way. Her young female characters, unashamed eroticism and fast-moving plots captivate and hold. *Michael, Michael* is no exception to this; the prose is stylish and the blend of dialogue with narrative well-judged. She is a reader's writer: smooth, interesting and pacy.

Tessa, the heroine of her new novel, starts off as an Oxford undergraduate. Perriam makes her both misfit and clique-member depending on circumstance and mood and evokes the girl's internal insecurity extremely well. One moment heady Oxford-blue skies, the next crumpled sub-fusc and no champagne. Guilty anxieties about her better-off friends' perception of bar-maid mum are also well done.

Tessa is swept off her feet by Michael, a junior doctor at the Radcliffe hospital. Her romanticism — she casts herself as Heloïse to Michael's Abelard throughout — is shattered by rejection under catastrophic circumstances, and she descends into an obsessive neuroticism.

When Tessa's infatuation substitutes one Michael for another, older, version with the same name and job, the plot becomes slightly incredible. Yet it is a mark of Perriam's talent that her characters are never unbelievable; at least, she never allows the reader to stop and wonder whether they are.

Tessa's sexual fickleness, particularly with Michael substitute number three, is grounded in an absolute devotion to the original man. Perriam depicts the confusion in attraction and the motives of a girl fresh out of adolescence, plunged head-first into man-infested waters, with great insight. Her heroine drowns before our eyes.

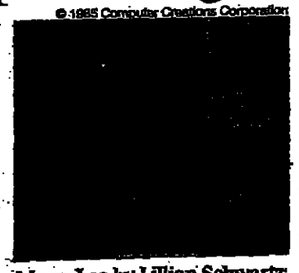
Chapters end with a subtle version of a cliff-hanger — the beginning of the next often places the reader in a different situation altogether and the resolution of previous events is left to be picked out of this new drama. Most chapters start with dialogue too, adding to the freshness of the book's technique.

Perriam likes to use neat kinds of symbolism. The original Michael, named after the angelic conqueror of Satan, indulges in most of the human sins. But Tessa's sexual awakening matches Michael's and the plumpish student in the second-hand clothes becomes Guinevere, Leander, Delilah and mostly Jezebel. Her reading of romantic mythology is shown to be as flawed as her faith in the loyalty of one tall, dark and handsome man.

Keeping art alive in a computer age

Lucy Fisher

THE COMPUTER ARTIST'S HANDBOOK
Concepts, Techniques and Applications
By Lillian F. Schwartz and Laurens R. Schwartz
Norton, £35



© 1985 Computer Creations Corporation

Mona-Leo by Lillian Schwartz: painting by electronic number

Artists will use any means of manipulating an image, whether transferring a tracing onto the wall of a church or using an electronic brain attached to a television screen, a typewriter keyboard, and a mouse. Lillian Schwartz is a pioneer of computer art. In this book she tells you how to follow in her footsteps (using a PC plus paint package upwards), but she wraps up the technical information in her own experience so you may not notice that you are absorbing knowledge about algorithms, pixels and spike protection. She discusses a poster for the Museum of Modern Art in terms of the difficulties she faced and how she overcame them.

Schwartz shows how your image can be manipulated almost infinitely. She takes in animation and sound: music can be converted into a visual analogue. Or you can make computer-controlled moving sculptures. You can "scan in" human figures and keep them in a library for future use. You need never draw a human being again.

But does the computer make things too easy for the artist? Schwartz shows that artists did something similar in the Renaissance: "Sets of arms, legs, feet and torsos" were created and used over again in the same fresco. Even though she describes "automatic" drawing and painting programs, her feet are on the ground. It is the artist who is creative, not the machine. The results are stunning.

Beeb before Birt

Lois Rathbone

A RESPONSIBLE MAN
By Cynthia Kee
Chatto & Windus, £13.99

QUEEN OF THE WITCHES
By Jessica Berens
Hutchinson, £13.99

Senior members of staff at the BBC will read *A Responsible Man*, Cynthia Kee's first novel, with misty-eyes. Set somewhere in the early sixties, its heroine, Victoria, works as an editor on a ground-breaking current affairs programme — based on *Tonight*, for which the author used to work. While the "fictional" interview it describes with Brigitte Bardot has in reality long since passed into television folklore, Victoria's colleagues also seem oddly familiar. Here is broadcasting in its first flush of youth — dynamic and answerable to no-one. Chat show producers jump at this sort of thing and Cynthia Kee, formerly married to the broadcaster Robert Kee, has been much in demand of late.

Woven around the comings and goings at the studio is a Le Carré-like spy spoof, complete with Russian dissidents and nuclear scientists. Victoria's new boyfriend, Harold, is at the hub of all this activity and the "responsible man" in question. Having dabbled with communism in his youth, he enters middle age sick with worry that his sins will be found out. He is indeed being watched, but not for the reasons he thinks.

The story jumps, disconcertingly at times, between the various plots. The love story and spy story are interrupted by some amusing stabs at Harold's awful friends — the county set — and, as with the television executives, much fun can be had guessing whom these people are based on in real life. The hysteria that grips one hostess when her cook abandons her on the eve of a house party is particularly rewarding, as is the unmotherly reaction of another when, preoccupied with her supper menu, she discovers that her children have been kidnapped. The children manage to escape and return without a murmur. "denial and evasion appeared to be the modes by which this clan operated." Kee's dissidents are also good, though built on a more Dickensian scale — heavy drinkers with thick Russian accents.

At the heart of the novel, however, is Victoria's obsessive love for the monstrous Harold. The absurd lengths to which an otherwise sensible woman goes in order to placate a man might just be believable if we, too, found him attractive. But Harold is not a good catch. His unexplained moods and tantrums quickly begin to grate and instead of sympathising with Victoria, we despair of her taste.

In *Queen of the Witches* Jessica Berens concentrates more single-mindedly on an ambitious subject: modern witchcraft. Sheenah is a High Priestess of the Divine Order of Isis. Her sole object in life is to win more converts to the cause of white witchery, to which end she runs evening classes in her Shepherds Bush home. At the same time, she is locked into a long-running battle for election to the post of Queen of the Witches with her old enemy, Myra.

Myra is a celebrity witch with her own TV show who swans around in some lovely outfits by Jean Muir: but beneath the pleasant exterior lies a foul plotter who has gone over to the other side — black magic — years ago. These two attract a group of love-sick girls, Soho characters and new-age hippies.

There is not a hint of magic realism here and sensible explanations are found for all strange occurrences. But the tale is none the less beguiling for that, often very funny, and containing a good analysis of the fine line between eccentricity and madness in the national character.

It is 1914
and Jonathan Blackwood
faces the stark realisation
that the days of honour and
glory are long gone...

DOUGLAS REEMAN

THE HORIZON



The triumphal return of the Blackwood family saga.

AVAILABLE NOW AT DILLONS,
BOOKS ETC, WATERSTONE'S, WH SMITH
AND BOOKSHOPS EVERYWHERE
£14.99

WILLIAM HEINEMANN

Activating suspended sentence

Regina v Crawford

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Pill and Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment March 23]

Activating a suspended sentence was not passing a sentence within section 1(2)(a) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by Clifford Crawford, aged 27, of South Bank, Middlesbrough, against sentences totalling 10 months imprisonment passed by Mr Recorder Wagstaff in Teesside Crown Court, where the appellant had been committed for sentence.

The sentences were composed of three months for shoplifting from a food supermarket of goods valued at £208 last July, six months consecutive for activation of a two-year suspended sentence of six months on pleas of guilty to shoplifting of £150 spirits and attempted shoplifting at another supermarket in September 1991 and, for driving while disqualified, one month with two years disqualification.

Also committed to the crown court was breach of a two-year suspended sentence of three months for shoplifting from a DIY supermarket of goods valued at £109.

Miss Isabelle Gillard, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY, giving the judgment of the court, said that the first question was whether the recorder was entitled to take into account with the recent supermarket theft one of the two offences for which suspended sentences had previously been imposed.

Section 1(2)(a) of the 1991 Act permitted the court to pass a custodial sentence only if it was of opinion that the offence, or one other offence associated with it, was so serious that only such a sentence could be justified for the offence.

In their Lordships' judgment the earlier offence was quite distinct and unassociated and had been the subject of a separate sentence. It did not fit the provision in section 31(2) that "an offence is associated with another if — (a) the offender is convicted of it in the proceedings in which he is convicted of the other offence, or (although convicted of it in earlier proceedings) is sentenced for it at the same time as he is sentenced for that offence . . ."

As a matter of law, activating a suspended sentence was not passing a sentence.

Not only did that accord with the common sense of the suspended sentence procedure but section 23(9) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973 made it clear that that was so by enacting specifically that any order made by a court with respect to a suspended sentence was to be treated as a sentence passed on the offender by that court for the offence for which the suspended sentence was passed.

If the activation of a suspended sentence was itself a sentence that provision would be unnecessary.

In *R v Pike* ([1971] 1 WLR 1321, 1324) the Court of Appeal, considering section 40(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, which was the predecessor of section 23(9) of the 1973 Act and contained a closely analogous provision, said that the wording of section 40(1) showed that the order putting a suspended sentence into effect was not the passing of a sentence. It remained as having been passed when it was originally imposed.

Thus section 40(1)(b) was worded so as to show that it was not a new sentence which was being passed; it was a sentence, previously passed, which was being brought into effect with a substituted term.

That being so, the question was whether it was legitimate for the recorder to take the circumstances of the earlier offences or either of them into account as "aggravating factors." Section 29(2) of the 1991 Act permitted that to be done, but only where "any aggravating factors of an offence are disclosed by the circumstances of other offences committed by the offender. . ."

In *R v Bedey* ([1993] 1 WLR 192, 199D) the court stated: "It is submitted that circumstances of previous offences which merely show the appellant to be a persistent offender, here a persistent shoplifter, do not disclose any aggravating feature of the instant offences, other than showing that the offender has previous convictions.

"That fact, and the failure to respond to probation and conditional discharge are excluded from consideration in regard to the seriousness of the instant offences by section 29(1) of the Act of 1991. With that submission we agree."

Their Lordships, therefore, accepted Miss Gillard's submission that the basis on which the recorder approached the sentence was flawed in law.

The appellant had served the equivalent of six months imprisonment. In the circumstances it would be wrong to do other than substitute a conditional discharge for 12 months for the sentences imposed by the recorder. The disqualification for two years stood and the suspended sentences remained in force.

Rent-free deal created tenancy

Skipton Building Society v Clayton and Others

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Sir Christopher Slade

[Judgment March 19]

An agreement to purchase a property for one-third of its true value and to guarantee the vendors the right to remain living in it rent-free for the remainder of their lives had the effect of granting to the vendors a tenancy of the property.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Skipton Building Society, from the decision of Judge Hull in Kingston upon Thames County Court in June 1992 refusing to order the second and third defendants, Richard and Mary Browne, to give up possession of Flat 1, 184 Acre Road, Kingston upon Thames.

In 1989 the first defendants, Barry L. Clayton and Gary N. Thomas, who carried on a business at 298 Ewell Road, Surbiton known as the Mortgage Advice Centre, in exercise of an option agreement, purchased Mr and Mrs Browne's leasehold flat for £25,000. It was later valued at £80,000.

Under the terms of an agreement, the first defendants purported to grant to Mr and Mrs Browne a licence to occupy the flat for their joint lives and the life of the survivor.

The agreement provided that possession, management and control of the flat should remain vested in the first defendants and that at no time should "the licensees enjoy exclusive physical possession of the property as against the licensors". The first defendants were to indemnify the Brownes for ground rent and other outgoings due under the lease.

Thereafter the first defendants, acting dishonestly, applied for and obtained a mortgage advance on the flat of £56,000 from the Skipton Building Society. The mortgage repayments were not kept up and proceedings were begun by the building society, seeking, *inter alia*, an order for possession of the flat against Mr and Mrs Browne.

Mr John Behrens for the building society; Mr Mark Cunningham for Mrs Browne; Mr Browne in person; the first defendants did not appear and were not represented.

SIR CHRISTOPHER SLADE said that the first ground of the building society's appeal, that the Brownes by their conduct were estopped from asserting that their interest in the flat took priority over the building society's interest, was rejected.

The second ground was that at the date the mortgage was granted, the Brownes were mere licensees, not tenants, and as such did not have an interest in the property capable of constituting an overriding interest within section 70(1) of the Land Registration Act 1925 even though they were in actual occupation.

Street v Mountford ([1985] AC 809) established that whether the label which the parties chose to attach to their arrangements was that of tenancy or licence, an arrangement under which exclusive possession of residential property was granted for a term at a rent would normally be regarded by the law as the grant of a tenancy.

Further, Lord Templeman had said (at p818) that the same legal result would ensue if the occupier was granted "exclusive possession for a fixed or periodic term certain in consideration of a premium. . ."

Mr Behrens accepted that it was possible to have a tenancy without any provision for the payment of rent. However, he reminded the court that the parties had had legal advice and that the 1989 agreement, according to its wording, granted no more than a licence.

In regard to the crucial question of exclusive possession, Mr Behrens attached weight to the clause purporting to reserve management, possession and control to the so-called licensor and not to give exclusive possession to the so-called licensees.

But the judge found the first defendants to be dishonest and the agreement that they had drafted was "contrived in an endeavour to avoid the consequences of *Street v Mountford*". The reality was, he held, that the Brownes were to have exclusive possession, having parted with their ownership for a much reduced sum.

There was no basis on which the court would be justified in interfering with those findings.

The next important question was whether the term granted to the Brownes was of sufficiently certain duration to give rise to a tenancy.

By section 149(6) of the Law of Property Act 1925 "Any lease . . . in consideration of a fine for life or lives . . . shall take effect as a lease . . . for a term of 90 years determinable after the death . . ." By section 205(1)(xxvii) "fine" included "a premium or foregift".

It was inescapable from an analysis of the facts that the 1989 agreement granted a term of years by the first defendants to the Brownes for their joint lives and the life of the survivor. The premium for that grant was the discount of more than two-thirds of the value of the flat for which it was sold to the first defendants.

It followed that Mr and Mrs Browne had a tenancy of the flat by virtue of the agreement to which section 149(6) applied.

That tenancy was at all material times binding on the building society, the victim of an unscrupulous fraud by the first defendants.

Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Charlesworth Wood & Brown, Skipton; Cotter & Co, Kingston upon Thames.

Application to read witness statements

Regina v French
Regina v Gowhar

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Jowitt and Mr Justice Waller

[Judgment March 16]

When an application was made by the prosecution to allow witness statements to be read, pursuant to section 2(b)(ii) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, on the ground that it was not reasonably practicable to secure the witness's attendance, the judge should consider the matter as at the date of the application and see whether on that date it was reasonably practicable to secure his attendance.

The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing the appeals of Lee Ernest French and Walid Mohammed Ahmed Gowhar and quashing their convictions, following a retrial, on April 8, 1992 at Bournemouth Crown Court (Judge Pryor, QC and a jury) of robbery.

Mr Nicholas Fridd, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr David Bartlett for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN said that the prosecution alleged that the appellants robbed a Mexican student in Bournemouth. The student came back from Mexico to give evidence at the first trial, in which the jury was discharged. He did not attend the second trial and the judge allowed two of his statements to be read.

In *R v Bray* ((1988) 88 Cr App R 354, 357) Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice had said: "Whether it is reasonable or not is not to be examined at the moment the trial opens but must be examined against the whole background of the case." However, unlike *Bray*, in the instant case there was a considerable history of attempts by the prosecution to secure the attendance of the witness.

Was there any necessity for the judge to have any regard to the future? In their Lordships' judgment it would be difficult to apply section 23 with any certainty if one could look to the future. The right way to approach it was to consider it as at the date of the application. Their Lordships agreed with the judge's decision in that respect.

On consideration of the exercise of his discretion under section 26 of the 1988 Act, however, their Lordships were driven to say that it was exercised on a wrong basis and could not be upheld. The evidence should not have been admitted.

Solicitors: CPS, Bournemouth.

Seeking order during hearing

In re All Starr Video Ltd

The effect of an *ex parte* application for a *Mareva* (asset freezing) injunction during the course of an *inter partes* hearing was that the applicant's counsel had an opportunity to make serious allegations against the respondent in the absence of the respondent's counsel. The application was wholly wrong and should have been refused.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Leggatt) so stated on March 8 in allowing an appeal against a world-wide *Mareva* injunction and an order for discovery of assets world-wide made by Mr Nicholas Stewart, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the applicant had brought proceedings by way of a petition under section 459 of the Companies Act 1985.

When the *inter partes* hearing had been going on for 10 days, the applicant at 9.30am on February 22, 1993, had applied by counsel, in the absence of the respondent's counsel, for, *inter alia*, a world-wide *Mareva* injunction against the respondent.

The deputy judge granted the injunction. The applicant's counsel informed the respondent's counsel of the order just before the *inter partes* hearing resumed that morning.

It was wholly wrong that the application should have been made *ex parte* during the course of the trial. The result was that counsel obtained an unfair advantage.

If a *Mareva* injunction was necessary during the continuance of a trial, the application should be made in open court in the presence of counsel for the respondent.

Council acted lawfully in putting child in hospital

Regina v Kirklees Metropolitan Council, Ex parte C (a Minor)

Before Lord Justice Lloyd, Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Lord Justice Farquharson

[Judgment March 16]

A local authority which arranged for a child in its care to be admitted to a mental hospital for assessment had not acted unlawfully, notwithstanding the fact that the Mental Health Act 1983 made no provision for voluntary admissions for such a purpose.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the minor from an order made by Mr Justice Kennedy (*The Times* February 10, 1992) whereby he dismissed the minor's application for judicial review of the local authority's decision to place her in a hospital for adults providing psychiatric or other treatment.

Miss Elizabeth Lawson, QC and Mr Antony White for the minor; Mr Shaun Spencer, QC and Miss Eleanor Hamilton for the authority.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD said that Miss Lawson submitted that there was no power under the 1983 Act to allow admission by consent for assessment purposes, nor was there a residuary power at common law.

Section 131 of the 1983 Act, on informal admission of patients, provided: "(1) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing a patient who requires treatment for mental disorder from being admitted to any hospital . . . in pursuance of arrangements made in that behalf and without any application, order or direction rendering him liable to be detained under this Act . . ."

Section 145(1) defined "patient" as "a person suffering or appearing to be suffering from a mental disorder". It had been conceded that C was not suffering from a mental disorder. His Lordship agreed with Miss Lawson that section 131 did not cover admissions for assessment. Mr Spencer did not contend otherwise.

Turning to the second part of Miss Lawson's argument, his Lordship said that the question was not whether at common law there was a power to admit voluntarily but whether there was anything to prevent such admission.

As Sir Robert Megarry, Vice-Chancellor, had said in *Malone v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis* ([1979] Ch 344, 366): ". . . England is not a country where everything is forbidden except what is expressly permitted."

There had never been any doubt that an adult could be admitted voluntarily to a mental hospital just as to any other hospital. If the hospital were challenged by an action for false imprisonment, consent would be a complete defence.

His Lordship would reject the argument that voluntary admission of a patient for assessment was unlawful at common law.

The only remaining question was whether it made any difference that C was a minor. The answer to that was that there was no difference provided that the local authority was capable of giving consent and did in fact give consent.

Miss Lawson conceded that the local authority had all the powers and duties of C's parents by virtue of section 10 of the Child Care Act 1980, but argued that the authority had not considered whether C was herself capable of giving or withholding consent in the *Gillick* sense: see *Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Area Health Authority* ([1986] AC 112). That argument failed on the facts.

There was nothing in the 1983 Act or the previous law which rendered the authority's act unlawful. His Lordship entirely agreed with Mr Justice Kennedy's judgment.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Farquharson agreed.

Solicitors: Ridley & Hall, Huddersfield; Mr Michael Vause, Huddersfield.

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 071 782 7828

Experienced Apple Mac Secretaries

■ Ernst & Young is the world's second largest firm of business and financial advisers helping organisations throughout the world to operate efficiently, profitably and successfully.

In the UK practice we have 7,300 people working from offices in 27 cities, providing services and technical expertise of the highest quality.

We currently have a number of excellent opportunities available to skilled Apple Mac (MS Word 5) secretaries within our Audit, Management Consultancy Services and Owner Managed Business Services departments:

Group Secretaries £12-14,000
(depending on age and experience)

■ Providing secretarial support to a group of technical managers, your main duties will include approximately 80% audio and copy typing, telephone liaison, diary management, organisation of meetings and travel arrangements.

Successful candidates will have a minimum of 2 years secretarial experience, audio and copy typing speeds of 60 wpm, at least 6 months working knowledge of MS Word on Apple Mac and experience of working for a team.

Administrative Secretary c£16,500

■ You will be providing full secretarial support to a team of Human Resources professionals, and be responsible for the administration of the recruitment process within one of our major client serving departments. Main duties will include the production of statistical reports, the organisation of interview days including liaison with candidates and recruitment agencies.

Applicants should have a minimum of: 2 A levels, together with 4 years secretarial experience, fast and accurate audio and copy typing skills, good MS Word on Apple Mac experience. Strong communication and organisational skills are essential as is a high degree of numeracy.

All candidates should be well presented, committed to providing a professional service, possess a willing and flexible attitude and be an effective team player.

■ If you feel you possess the necessary skills and experience to match these requirements, please contact Lucinda Clayton on 071-931 3889 by Wednesday, 31/3/93, at the latest in order to discuss these opportunities further.

ERNST & YOUNG

Experienced & self motivated
LEGAL SECRETARY/ PERSONAL ASSISTANT
urgently required by busy Brighton partner in North West London firm. Excellent secretarial skills essential. Initiative, ability to work under pressure with minimum supervision & a sense of humour would set the right candidate apart from the rest. Salary negotiable.
CVs to Mrs.S Kempel, Office Manager, Hoddens, 11 Station Road, London NW10 4UD.

SECRETARY/ ADMIN/ASST
for a small but friendly Mayfair based company. Ideal opportunity for a flexible person with excellent WP (WordPerfect) skills. Salary c£14,000. Please Reply to Box No 1554

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES
FRENCH speaking Bilingual Secretary required to work for Director of branded perfume Company. WP 5.1, shorthand essential. Great opportunity for career growth. Salary according to experience. Mr Golding: 081 879 6060.

NON-SECRETARIAL
AMBITIOUS bilingual required. Please call Mrs Lee now on 071 289 4570.

SUPER SECRETARIES
CHISWICK based company needs secretaries with good WP 5.1 skills and Italian for Temp to Perm and permanent assignments to start as soon as possible. Sals £14.5-£17k. Tel: Angela Mortimer (Rec Cons) 071 287 7788.

CONFIDENT young sec. £14-16,000 + Bank Bens. Sat 2nd jobber with good sec skills inc. 70wpm. Lots of investment. Evening rotat 071-287 3664 Next Employment.

CORPORATE FINANCE Secretary. £15,000 + Bank bens inc paid overtime. SH essential, working for a small team in prestigious City bank. 071-287 3664 Next Employment.

DTP/SEC. £15,500 + Bank Bens. Busy Marketing role for confident sec who would like to move into role with heavy DTP emphasis. Exp des. 071-287 3664 Next Employment.

EFFICIENT Secretary required for busy office near Baker Street, Flexibility with good organisational skills essential. Shorthand & MS Word preferred. Tel 071 262 2666.

SECRETARY/Assistant required at small, friendly, busy, City practice of shipping Solicitors/Freshwaterville. Offices London and Hamburg. Knowledge of German preferred. Tel: 071 702 4441.

SENIOR Secretary 24-30 for City Bank. Suitable applicant will have good communications skills and work well under pressure with minimum supervision. Experience on Microsoft Word for Windows is essential as is shorthand and audio. £14,000+ bonus bens. Reg Trisha, Centre Point Bureau 437 9411.

= 108 = HARLEY STREET SECRETARIAL VACANCIES

SALARY: £13,000-£15,000 neg. + benefits

Medical Secretary required to join multi-disciplinary team with a special responsibility for Breast Clinic and Mammography Unit.

Medical Secretary with management skills required by busy practice, with a special responsibility for Day Surgery Centre.

Both positions require Audio-typing and WordPerfect 5.1 skills. Medical Experience Essential.

CV to Deborah Sheridan, 108 Harley Street, London W1N 1AF
Fax: 071 436 2945

AUDIO SEC - SW1
c13,000 WITH EXEC BENEFITS
A well educated (Grad or A level) secretary for a medical/educational environment working at a senior level. The ability to cope in a busy, but interesting organisation, using your good interpersonal skills, audio & typing are essential. You will be attending meetings, use your admin skills and prioritise your daily workload. Immediate start.
Call Helen or Maureen
071 235 7114
Susan Hamilton Personnel

SEC/ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT
Excellent chance for an intelligent, enthusiastic young person to work in the busy office of a small group of restaurants in Soho. £9,000 p.a.
Call Nick 071 437 1503

Chief Executive of Europe's largest private hospital complex requires
P.A.
Based London. Salary commensurate with experience.
Write including CV to: Dr Barnes, PO BOX 4187 London W9 4ZA

NEWS DATACOM
(MAIDENHEAD)
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE
SALARY COMMENSURATE WITH POSITION
HOURS: 9 AM to 6.30 PM/7PM.

Applications are invited for the position of Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive of News Datacom whose offices are situated at Maidenhead.

We are looking for a senior Personal Assistant with previous experience at Board Level, educated to A Level standard, with excellent secretarial skills (100/60, Microsoft Word). Knowledge of French/German would be an asset.

The key attributes for this position are: first class organisational ability, a professional and mature approach together with evidence of initiative and enthusiasm, and total commitment to the job with the willingness to work long hours.

There will be the occasional opportunity to travel.

Applications in writing enclosing CV together with daytime telephone number to Brenda Hemmings, Recruitment Manager, News International Newspapers Limited, PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

THE TIMES
LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME
AT THE
LONDON SECRETARY SHOW

Visit The Times on stand 115 at The London Secretary and Office Management show and test your skills and knowledge on our "Superquiz" computer game.

Entrants can win prizes from the Montagne Jeunesse range of natural skin and hair products.

Montagne Jeunesse
VEGETARIAN FORMULATIONS
CRUELTY FREE

THE LONDON SECRETARY SHOW IS AT BLUE HALL, THE BARBICAN CENTRE, LONDON.
30TH MARCH 10AM-6PM
31ST MARCH 10AM-8PM
1ST APRIL 10AM-4.30PM

See Us On Stand 115

The Times: sponsors of The 1993 Secretary of The Year Awards.

هكذا من الأصل

Service teams try break with tradition

David Hands finds only a handful of spectators drawn to Twickenham for a midweek experiment



Assisted take-off: Richardson, the RAF lock, enjoyed close formation support to win this lineout ball. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Twickenham in mid-week is usually synonomous with student rugby. Yesterday, though, rugby's headquarters echoed to the more ordered cries of the Army and the Royal Air Force as the services sought a wider public at a time of recession.

Although the Army and the Royal Navy opened the inter-services championship ten days ago on their traditional Saturday and attracted over 12,000 in the process — so many and varied are the regimental reunions timed to coincide with the senior service fixture — both the remaining games are being played on a Wednesday as part of a two-year experiment.

Sir Michael Knight, on behalf of the RAF, presented a paper in the mid-seventies suggesting change, which was part acknowledgement that the better forces players would opt for senior club rugby wherever possible. But the services have jealously guarded their Saturdays at Twickenham, until this season.

Their zeal is understandable. The championship, at Twickenham, maintains the profile of services sport, and in particular, makes rugby an attractive option for young entrants, who can rub shoulders with international sportsmen. Yesterday, the RAF had Rory Underwood on the left wing and Paul Hull, the England A full back, at stand-off half, while the Army enjoyed the support of Tim Rodber, the Northampton flanker who was capped twice by England last season.

Privately services administrators acknowledge that having changed a reversion to Saturdays is unlikely, but if the experiment is to prove successful, crowds substantially larger than yesterday's disappointing 750 are desirable, to help to maintain a faithful string of sponsors.

Earlier this month the Army set off like a train by beating the Navy 37-15. Yesterday, though they lost 20-17, they began in similar fashion. While the RAF admired Deans's speculative drop at goal, Glasgow charged up to touch down under their noses. To be fair the RAF were adjusting to the pre-match loss of Johnson, their stand-off, which brought Hull from full back and allowed in Lazenby, who prompted a splendid response, running from his own 22 to link with his forwards, Moore making a definitive charge and Watkins completing a 70-metre move.

The Army's set-piece organisation was superior, but the airmen enjoyed space when they could find it. Crossland's insertion from the right created room for Underwood and the RAF led 15-7 at the interval. Though Rodber narrowed the gap, Underwood's second try, after Hull's delightful chip, gave the RAF the necessary buffer and victory by a goal, two tries and a penalty goal to two goals and a penalty, although the England wing had to produce three try-saving tackles during the final quarter. Success against the Navy next week would give them their thirteenth title.

SCORERS: Army: Tries: Glasgow, Rodber. Conversions: Spowart (2). Penalty goal: Spowart. RAF: Tries: Underwood (2), Watkins. Conversion: Hull. Penalty goal: Hull.
ARMY: Lt H Graham (RHA); S Sgt P Simon (REME), Capt A Glasgow (RE), SSI C Spowart (APTC), S Sgt E Atkins (Royal Signals); Capt A Deans (AGC, captain), Cpl D Williams (RRW); Sgt D Coghlan (RHA), Capt J Brammer (RE), Bdr J Fowers (RHA), 2nd Lt T Rodber (Green Howards), 2nd Lt D Dahinten (RHA), Capt T Swan (RAMC), Lt G James (RRW), Cpl M Watson (REME).
ROYAL AIR FORCE: Cpl S Lazenby (Brize Norton); SAC S Crossland (Locking), SAC G Sharp (Benson), Cpl S Rolke (St Athan), Flt Lt R Underwood (Wyton): Cpl P Hull (Lyneham), Sgt S Worrall (Cottesmore, captain); Sgt D Robson (Odiham), Sgt S W Collins (Innsworth), Cpl A Elliott (St Athan), Cpl C Morgan (Leerbruch), Sgt B Richardson (Rudloe Manor), Flt Lt R Burn (Lossiemouth), FO D Watkins (Brize Norton), FO C Moore (Oakhanger).
Referee: C Rees (London).

SQUASH

Clear field leaves Le Moignan at home

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN ST PETER PORT

MARTINE Le Moignan's season has been short on glory so far, hampered by her unaccountable failure in the world championships and disinterested defeats in national league play. But this week, here in her home town, a win in the Guernsey women's open championship would enhance her local reputation more than any previous achievement.

The tall left-hander, now based in Colchester, is seeded second behind the Australian, Michelle Martin, for the title that was dominated from its inception by the retired world champion, Susan Devoy, of New Zealand, on the King's Club courts where Le Moignan learned her craft.

The absence of her close rival, Lisa Opie, this year, and the last-minute withdrawal through injury of the new England No. 1, Cassandra Jackman, leaves Le Moignan to take on the world, perhaps for the last time, in Guernsey. She has already announced her intention of withdrawing from international competition after this year.

Opie is still busy promoting the event, but has withdrawn from competition for three months in the hope of repairing back injuries in time for the World Open championship in Johannesburg this autumn. In her rivalry with Le Moignan, stemming from their schooldays together, Opie has always attracted the greater local fame.

Le Moignan won three national titles and seized the headlines in 1989 when she took the world championship from Devoy. But Opie's ten-year record from 1981, as world junior champion, four times national champion and British open champion, always stirred imaginations in the Guernsey community.

Devoy's fondness for the event as a preparation for the British Open continually prevented the pair from carrying the professional tussle to its most suitable parochial conclusion. Now Le Moignan is well-placed to lift the local crown in isolation if she performs well in a draw from which only Fiona Geaves appears to offer real opposition to a place in the semi-finals.

The Guernsey pair are unlikely to vie for this local honour again. Le Moignan may eye the approaching British Open with an appetite for the elusive title, and Opie may yearn for the world championship missing from her collection. But, since both are in their thirties, they are unlikely to resist the rising tide of youth to reach next year's final here.

CRICKET

Australia unable to handle Larsen

AN UNBEATEN innings of 91 by the captain, Martin Crowe, set up a New Zealand victory by 88 runs in Wellington yesterday in the third of five one-day internationals against Australia, who lead 2-1 in the series.

Crowe's gritty innings against some accurate bowling enabled New Zealand to reach 214 all out in their 50 overs before Australia collapsed to 126 in 37.2 overs against the medium-pace bowlers, led by Gavin Larsen, who took three for 17 from ten overs.

Mark Taylor was the only Australian batsman to offer serious resistance, scoring 50 while his colleagues failed to come to terms with a pitch of variable bounce.

New Zealand lost their opening pair for 49 and Andrew Jones and Crowe were then contained by the spin of Border and Warne, who had Jones stumped for 29. Despite being troubled by a knee injury, Crowe gradually took control, but did not show his full range of strokes until he launched an all-out attack on Border's final over which cost 19 runs, including two sixes, an unfortunate end to what had been a tidy spell by the Australian captain.

Australia's reply began ominously when Mark Waugh, who had made 57 and 60 in the first two games, was dismissed by Morrison without scoring. Dean Jones scored a rapid 25 before falling to Larsen, who won the man of the match award.

The last eight batsmen scraped up only 32 runs, none of them able to offer support to Taylor who was finally caught in the deep as he attempted to hit Patel for six.

SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND
M J Greatbatch c S R Waugh b Dodemaide 8
R T Latham lbw b Reiffel 21
A H Jones st Healy b Warne 29
*M D Crowe not out 91
C Z Harris run out 18
†T E Blain c and b Border 9
J Wilson c S R Waugh b Warne 15
D N Patel c M E Waugh b Border 7
G F Larsen run out 4
C Pringle run out 1
D K Morrison c Boon b Dodemaide 0
Extras (lb 3, w 8) 11
Total (50 overs) 214
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-49, 3-95, 4-127, 5-140, 6-168, 7-178, 8-205, 9-213
BOWLING: Hughes 4-0-21-0; Dodemaide 9-1-38-2; Reiffel 10-1-21-1, Warne 10-0-40-2; Waugh 7-0-37-0; Border 10-0-54-2.

AUSTRALIA
M E Waugh b Morrison 0
M A Taylor c Latham b Patel 50
D M Jones c Blain b Larsen 25
D C Boon b Wilson 2
S R Waugh b Harris 9
*A R Border run out 0
†I A Healy c Wilson b Larsen 1
M G Hughes b Larsen 2
A I C Dodemaide c Greatbatch b Patel 7
P R Reiffel not out 8
S K Warne b Wilson 3
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 7, nb 3) 19
Total (37.2 overs) 126
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-42, 3-66, 4-71, 5-71, 6-77, 7-93, 8-108, 9-122
BOWLING: Morrison 4-1-21-1, Pringle 5-1-11-0; Wilson 5.2-0-21-2; Larsen 10-3-17-3, Harris 8-1-33-1, Patel 5-0-14-2.

Lions can benefit from touring without complaint



GERALD DAVIES
Rugby Commentary

It is devoutly to be wished that the British Isles management, as the summer tour of New Zealand progresses, will consign their complaints, as they arise, to the dustbin. If they do have any, they should reserve them for the review at the end, where they may be noticed. What is certain is that no good will come of them while they are in New Zealand.

To bite one's tongue at a propitious moment, however difficult this may prove for certain players, will be more palatable than to have to chew humble pie in consequence of their moans. New Zealand is a country where to shoulder difficulties without complaint is a national virtue. They respect this in others.

In past Lions tours, whinging has taken different forms of varying significance. Questions over the objective judgement of home referees was a perennial and, in some circumstances justified, bleat. Violence was, too. On the tours of 1971 and 1974, for instance, it was a matter of giving as good as you got. Neutral referees and the involvement of touch judges have largely quelled the likelihood of recriminations.

But some moans were more trivial than others. The argument over whether to be allowed *à la carte*, as opposed to *table d'hôte*, menus has had prominent moments; and, would you believe, whether claret would be more acceptable at dinner than beer.

But such battles were clearly fought in vain. The spartan existence of the modern player, I am told, has obviated the need for such luxuries. All these form part of the performer's neurosis. Nothing is ever quite right.

Whinging is companion to failure; part of the loser's charter. By and large, it is a phenomenon of team games, the down side of team spirit. Although upstart tennis players condemn umpires for the loss of a point, they rarely blame anyone for the loss of a whole match. Golfers politely blame themselves and no track athlete argues with the clock and the tape.

In rugby, there is always someone else to blame. It can get worse. The most innocent "how do you like our country?" question becomes so repetitive that players retreat into the private world of the team room. Some Lions tours became notoriously vulnerable in their introspection. The present party will need a few comics as companions.

So can we anticipate a prominent whinge this time? If this season's five nations' championship is anything to go by, the demon will be the experimental new laws. From the day the ruck-maul law was announced last year, the prevailing mood has not been one of co-operation and assimilation, but rather of objection and resistance.

This has been reflected in the style of the games, which seemed to have been played as if the old laws applied. Only France, against Wales last Saturday, suggested what possibilities were open.

Instead of playing to establish the ruck and maul, the ball was moved so that Hueber, the scrum half, did not have to dig into the loose scrum, causing delay, as his counterparts had done. The law has not been given a fair trial here. Of interest this summer is whether the Antipodean teams have responded more positively to the changes. Only then shall we know the law's true worth.

SPORTS LETTERS

rish eyes scowl over Lions' tour selection

om Mr M. Scallon

r, In utter disappointment I ad the line-up for the Lions' gby tour of New Zealand sport, March 23). It is laentable that the decision to clude so many Irish faces om the party has been taken thout regard to recent perrmances and the impact it ll have across the water.

At the heart of the Lions' ing lies a cohesion that joins ur national forces, which all o often, in reality, seek to ove further apart. If this is o old-fashioned or romantic notion for maintaining some mblance of balance in the lection, then let the facts eak for themselves.

In Dublin last Saturday 15 len wearing green comprehensively outran, out-tackled and, most of all, outwitted 15 men wearing white. They were younger, fitter and showed a fresh enthusiasm for the game. They believed they could win.

What Geoff Cooke and others have achieved with England is to pick a side whose core may be experience but which is also old, tired and now all too used to the idea of defeat. Several selections defy logic and have confounded all but those who made them.

If the Lions are to have any chance of winning the international matches in New Zealand, the pride, passion and commitment witnessed at Lansdowne Road could have been a decisive ingredient in this cocktail of talent that will take on the All Blacks.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SCALLON,
1 Welcombe Cottages,
Mayfield Avenue,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.

From Mr N. von Berg

Sir, Whilst one must sympathise with Noel Murphy and those of his Irish players who failed to gain a Lions place, the question must be asked: would those who performed so heroically last Saturday, on a fine spring day at home and in front of their vociferous supporters, manage to deliver the goods thousands of miles from home against the All Blacks, in the rain and mud, with the crowd baying for their blood?

One expects that, in spite of their relatively high milage, Messrs Winterbottom, Dooley, Teague and Richards will.

Yours faithfully,
N. von BERG,
Barrett's Cottage,
Cross Green, Debenham,
Stowmarket, Suffolk.

Painful moment

From Miss K. Naylor

Sir, Whilst I am sure that Peter Winterbottom was not happy at the end of the match between England and Ireland, as indicated in your caption (March 22), the photograph you published must have been taken at the point when he was injured during the second half and was clutching his head in pain. He finished the match with his head wrapped in a large bandage, which he is not wearing in your picture.

Yours faithfully,
K. NAYLOR,
32 Clifford Road,
Petersham, Surrey.

One-day game needs draws

From the Chairman of Thames Water

Sir, When I returned to league cricket after the war, as many people watched local derbies as today attend some county matches. It was a disciplined and serious business.

If the game started late, the offending team was fined. If the incoming and outgoing batsman did not cross on the field of play, another fine. We had tea in separate dressing-rooms and went straight home after the game. We were expected to play Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays. Nets were compulsory. It was the basis of Yorkshire cricket.

You could win, lose or draw. The draw — no part of today's county and international one-day matches — often produced exciting games, and injected life into a game otherwise dead.

One Saturday we got 240 for three against Dewsbury on the old county ground in two hours and a quarter. Dewsbury replied with 111 for nine — a draw. It was not until after the game that we discovered that they had reversed their batting order. At the end we simply could not bowl out what in effect was the opening pair.

What is needed is a county one-day tournament where it is possible to draw. Only then will we get away from "economy rates" and encourage bowlers to get batsmen out all the time.

Yours sincerely,
ROY WATTS,
Chairman, Thames Water plc,
14 Cavendish Place, W1.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046.

Scottish concerns over lottery

From Mr James Scott and others

Sir, A national lottery has the potential to provide enormous benefit to sport throughout the United Kingdom.

As presidents of governing bodies of Scottish sport, we have observed that the lottery bill appears to guarantee a fair share of revenue to Scotland by allocating 8.9 per cent of income for the development of Scottish sport, with a further share of the overall allocation to the UK Sports Commission, when it is established. We expect Scotland's total share to be around 10.66 per cent.

However, we are concerned that comments by the Secretary of State, Peter Brooke, during the bill's second reading suggested that the allocation to the UK Sports Commission would be deducted from the share to be made available to sport in the home countries. This would mean a reduction which is clearly at odds with the 8.9 per cent set out in the original bill and, given current estimates of income, could mean a loss of as much as £4 million annually to Scottish sport.

We understand that the lottery proceeds are mainly to be used for much needed sports projects. However, we would hope that some income could be used to enable our many talented sportsmen and women to fulfil their potential.

Recent select committee reports also suggest that the government intends to allow annual flexibility on the allocation of funds. This may skew long-term investment plans.

While we welcome this major initiative, we would like a fair chance to play off Mr Brooke's "level playing field".

Yours faithfully,
JAMES SCOTT
(Scottish Athletics Federation),
DOUGLAS TENNENT
(Scottish Badminton Union),
MATT BROWN
(Royal Caledonian Curling Club),
PETER MORRISON (Scottish Amateur Rowing Association),
ALISTAIR GRAY
(Scottish Hockey Union),
DOUGLAS RAE
(Scottish Golf Union),
WINNIE FERGUSON (Scottish Amateur Swimming Association),
DAVID WATT (Scottish Amateur Gymnastics Association),
IAN CROOKS
(Scottish Cricket Union),
BILL McINNES
(Scottish Basketball Association),
Scottish Sports Association,
Caledonia House,
South Gyle, Edinburgh 12.

Greek parody

From Mr Constantin Stefanou

Sir, Cricket is almost unknown in my country. However, judging by the articles in your pages and by the responses in the Sports Letters, the performance of the English cricket team is probably as bad as that of the Greek football team (complete with the captain's "designer stubble").

Perhaps the governing bodies in the two countries could enter an agreement whereby the English cricket team would play football for Greece and the Greek football team would play cricket for England. The performances would continue to be awful, but the governing bodies could be eligible for an EC grant in the process (perhaps under the Mediterranean Integrated Programmes).

Yours faithfully,
C. STEFANOU,
Fokianou 32 st.
Athens 116 35, Greece.

Make sure you're first past the post for a free pair of tickets to TAUNTON
ON 1 APRIL 1993



Win one of five pairs of tickets to the members' enclosure at Taunton, and enjoy a buffet lunch, afternoon tea and meet Times writer Brian Beel, who will be covering the event for the paper. To enter simply call 0891 100 194 and answer the following question. Which horse won last year's Grand National?

Taunton is the seventh meeting in the new Rising Star Series, sponsored by *The Times* which aims to forge a closer link between point-to-pointing and hunter chasing.

THE TIMES RISING STARS

The Times Rising Star Series is set to become one of the most important events on the hunter chase racing calendar. So, to jump at the chance of a pair of free tickets phone today.

Calls charged at 36p/min cheap rate, 48p/min at all other times.

TRAIN SPECIAL

WORD-WATCH

Answers from page 44

DAPPING
(a) Fishing by a method in which the bait is allowed to dip or bob lightly on the water, onomatopoeic: "The patient dapper who thrusts his rod between the branches of over-hanging foliage and dangles a blue-bottle temptingly at the extremity of a 3x cast."

TEUCRIUM
(b) A herb or shrub of the genus of this name, belonging to the family Labiatae, from the Greek *teukrion*, a name used by Dioscorides: "The terraced paths take you across the hillside, between hedges of rosemary and lavender and teucrium, always aromatic in the sunshine."

TEUCHTE(A)R
(c) A Highlander, rude Lowland Scots, origin unknown: "For the inhabitants of Harris are mainly what most Scots call teuchtars — a word which I had never heard till I had it applied to me by a teacher in a Glasgow school. What is a teuchtar? It is a Lowland Scots imitation of a Gaelic noise, a term of now genial contempt for a crofter or, more generally, for anyone from beyond the Highland line."

KARREN
(b) The furrows, fissures, or grikes of a *karrenfeld*, an area of limestone bare of soil, which has been eroded by solution of the rock giving an extremely dissected surface with conspicuous furrows and fissures, often separated by knifelike ridges.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
With the accurate 1 Qe4! white creates unanswerable threats, e.g. 1 ... Re6 2 Qa8+ Qe8 3 Rd8.

WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m, CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. COMPILED BY PETER DEAN AND

Big-name absentees in Tournament Players' Championship

Resuming a Love affair in Florida

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA

THE Players Championship, which starts at the Tournament Players Club at Sawgrass in Florida today, is well named. It is a player's delight. Every competitor has a car and a personalised parking space; the practice facilities are superb and the purse is $2.5 million (about £1.69 million) with $450,000 (£305,000) going to the winner.

Last year, Davis Love III took a mere $324,000 for winning, so it would seem that inflation in northern Florida is operating at Brazilian levels. Love, not surprisingly, is back to defend the biggest title of his career, but the absentees include some of the game's biggest names: Nick Faldo, Seve Ballesteros and Sandy Lyle.

Faldo, the world No. 1, who led by a shot going into the last round here last year, was at home cooing over his new baby, a daughter called Georgia, so Augusta is obviously on his mind; Lyle was awaiting the birth of his first child with Jolande; and Ballesteros was just Ballesteros, a man altogether more dramatic, unpredictable and exciting than the rest of the world's golfers put together.

Having pulled out of the tournament at Santa Ponsa in Majorca a couple of weeks ago, stricken with back trouble, Ballesteros had people speculating that he might never play again, that the career of golf's most magical player was over. There was talk of pulling out of the Masters, a tournament he had won twice on a course he loved, but, happily, the word from Pedreña yesterday was that he would be travelling to Augusta. "I've rested and had massages since Santa Ponsa and on Monday I started hitting balls again," he said. "Sometimes I feel like I have a knife in my back, but that has not happened for a while."

José María Olazábal, who has formed an inspirational partnership with Ballesteros in the Ryder Cup, is at Sawgrass for his first American outing of the season. He said of Ballesteros: "He has a bad problem, that is for sure, though I don't know how bad his back is. He has just lost his confidence and if he gets it back, he'll play well again. Maybe not as well as he used to, but just good for him is very good for the rest."

Olazábal's own confidence took a dive here last year when he had trouble with a hooked drive and a tree at the 10th in the third round and ran up a triple bogey seven, to drop out of contention.

However, Olazábal, who, like Love, is at the stage of his career where he is expected to win a major championship, to elevate himself to another level, was in a buoyant frame of mind. "My game is good right now and my confidence is a little bigger than it was," he said. "I never expected to do so well so early in my career, but I don't think anybody expects more from myself than I do."

His fellow Europeans here, all with great expectations, include Ian Woosnam, Bernhard Langer and Anders Forsbrand, while Vijay Singh, the Fijian who has a home in London and is a familiar figure on the European tour, is also playing. Woosnam and Forsbrand missed the cut at Bay Hill last week, but have been making the hands bleed on the practice ground.

Singh is the man in prime form, however. He tied for second place with Love and Rocco Mediate, behind Ben Crenshaw at Bay Hill. Singh hits the ball a very long way and as Love, another massive hitter, confirmed, this is above all else a driver's course.

Brilliant putters such as Crenshaw and Phil Mickelson, the talented young left-hander who won in San Diego earlier this year, will always have a chance, but they also have a tendency to be a trifle wayward, and that is death — usually by water — here.

GEORGE HERRINGSHAW



Mickelson: talented youngster with flair on the greens

Public interest rises to new heights on court

Nicholas Harling examines the revival of basketball's domestic fortunes after growing participation at grassroots level

Latecomers will doubtless be disappointed but the basketball authorities would like nothing better than to have further evidence of their sport's newly discovered popularity confirmed by capacity crowds at Bracknell on Saturday, at Worthing a week later and again at Wembley in May.

Whatever the effect of the salary cap — the controversial regulation reinstated before the start of the season, and the subject since of more debate than any other topic — basketball has benefited hugely. The monopoly enjoyed by Kingston has ended and the game has prospered. Crowds are up, television has caught on, sponsors are maintaining interest and more schools are playing than ever.

Not even Kingston, or Guildford as they are now known after the club's move down the A3, are complaining any more at the financial restrictions that forced them to cut their American players after their exit from the European club competitions. Guildford have consequently dropped out of contention for the Carlsberg League but Kevin Cadle's squad got its act together in time to win the national cup and is now, partly through its liaison with local schools, frequently filling the magnificent Spectrum Arena.

No sport is enhanced by one club's domination, and the domestic game had become predictable when Kingston were winning most of the titles. Now, the title race involves a pair of clubs whose two meetings in the last week of the regular season will decide who finishes top. Few scriptwriters will have had the foresight to match the contenders, Worthing Bears and Thames Valley Tigers, home and away, at such a time.

That schedule has not been lost on BSkyB, who will televise the first encounter on Saturday, in which Worthing will be crowned champions if they win. It will be the third programme of a ten-part series. In addition, the BBC will screen the final of the championship playoffs at Wembley.

"The main criteria for televising games is that they are competitive," Mike Smith, the basketball league's chief executive, said. Worthing's stirring game at Birmingham and a better than usual All-Stars game have provided good television, which has been reflected in ticket sales for Wembley. Already, twice as many have been sold than at this stage in 1991.

For many years, basketball has been tagged as Britain's fastest-growing team sport, as popular in most schools as football according to the league's statistics. Summer camps held by the likes of Cadle and Alton Byrd are the vogue and the clubs themselves have helped by sending their best players to indoctrinate the schools. Nowhere is that influence felt more than along the south coast, where Portsmouth's successes in the mid-Eighties, followed by Worthing's advance, have proved infectious.



Cunningham: optimistic

"There's hardly a school down here that doesn't play," Alan Cunningham, the Worthing player-coach, said. "I even see courts going up outdoors like they have in the inner city areas in the States." From his front window, Cunningham can see a basket and backboard rigged up on the garage door opposite.

Cunningham and his Worthing team-mates were among the 40 national league players who acted as instructors before the NatWest Trophy final two months ago. The clinic, held at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham and attended by 1,000 pupils, was the largest indoors event of its kind for any sport in Britain.

Of the 12 first division clubs, it is perhaps significant that only the bottom three, Hemel Royals, Sunderland Saints and Cheshire Jets, are without sponsors. The second division champions, Doncaster, who will probably replace one of those in peril, would be welcome in the top flight.

Sponsorship should be integral to the funding of the clubs but it needs to be balanced with money generated through the gate and activities such as clinics and merchandising. Smith might also have mentioned public relations. But that message seems to have been lost on, among others, London Towers, the capital's most successful club, whose squad merits greater support. Crystal Palace's demise in the Eighties was an example heeded by some of their rivals, who learned then that basketball needed to make an effort to spread its gospel: more than ever in the inner cities, where the game is yearning to take off.

CARLSBERG LEAGUE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Worthing	29	28	1	2711	2195	56
Thames Val	30	26	4	2754	2171	52
London T	29	22	7	2542	2361	44
Guildford	28	21	7	2731	2288	42
Birmingham	29	14	15	2731	2545	28
Derby	29	13	16	2528	2581	26
Manchester	31	12	19	2602	2631	24
Leicester	29	11	18	2386	2502	22
Oldham	30	11	19	2482	2670	22
Cheshire	29	8	21	2184	2605	16
Sunderland	30	6	24	2277	2613	12
Hemel Rylts	29	4	25	2287	2911	8

Not including last night's matches

Gilford content with campaign strategy

DAVID Gilford intends to stick to his game plan, which involves taking regular breaks from tournament golf, even though his bank balance is mounting every time he plays.

Gilford, this season's most successful golfer on the PGA European Tour, topping the money list with £132,727, has played in six of the nine events, winning two and finishing in the top ten in the other four.

"I've never had such a start to the season before," Gilford said as he prepared to play today in the Kronenbourg Open at the Gardagolf Country Club, Salo, the Italian tourist resort northwest of Lake Garda. "Winning two tournaments and never being out of the top ten is great for my confidence but I'm not changing my schedule.

"I normally play in 20 to 25 events each year and I shall play about the same number again. I'm a great believer in taking a break every now and again because then you come back to the tournaments refreshed."

Gilford, 27, from Crewe, does not stop playing when he leaves the circuit but limits himself to a few rounds with his friends.

Gilford, who won the Moroccan Open in Agadir last month and the Portuguese Open last week, was unlucky to be left out of the singles at the last Ryder Cup match because Steve Pate, the American team member, was injured in a car accident and was unable to play. But he is not fretting about September's match at The Belfry.

"I'm not thinking too much about the Ryder Cup but obviously it's nice to make a good start to the season," he said.

Gilford, who hits more fairways and greens in regulation figures than any other golfer in Europe, could quite easily win again this week, with most of the leading men in America preparing for the US Masters, which is only a fortnight away.

Jim Payne, of Lincolnshire, who won the Baleares Open two weeks ago, is among the challengers, along with Ryder Cup players Sam Torrance and Howard Clark, as well as Barry Lane, who still tops the Ryder Cup points table despite his recent bad spell.

□ Ron Moseley, 65, president of the Association of Golf Writers and former golf correspondent of the Press Association, died at his home in Billericay yesterday after a short illness.

Cyprus recover to gain point

CYPRUS drew 1-1 with a disjointed team from the Czech and Slovak Republics in their group four World Cup qualifying match in Limassol yesterday.

The visitors took the lead after 34 minutes through Moravcik, whose 20-yard shot gave the Cyprus goalkeeper, Ioannou, no chance. Sotiriou scored the 48th-minute equaliser with a low shot from inside the penalty area.

But on yesterday's showing, the political division between the Czechs and Slovaks seems to have been transferred to the football pitch. The side lacked cohesion and despite piling on the pressure in the last ten minutes, failed to take their chances.

One point apiece means that Cyprus stay fifth in the table, but the Czechs and Slovaks are third, ahead of Wales on goal difference. However, the visitors needed a victory to worry second-placed Romania, who have played an extra game but are still three points clear. Belgium are top of the group with six wins in six matches.

Three players were sent off, one had three teeth knocked out after being elbowed in the mouth and another went off with a dislocated shoulder in a bruising Libertadores Cup tie between the Chileans, Cobreloa and San José yesterday.

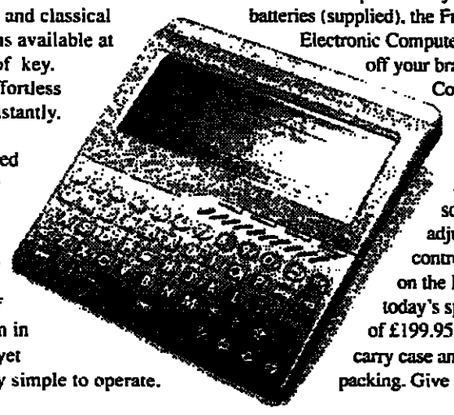
THE TIMES

READER OFFER

Knowledge at your Fingertips, The Franklin Electronic Encyclopedia, at £199.95 inc.P&P

– Save £200 off MRRP!

Imagine continents, constellations, composers and classical civilisations available at the touch of key. Imagine effortless research instantly. Imagine a sophisticated knowledge machine capable of researching through volumes of information in seconds – yet satisfyingly simple to operate.



Pocket-sized, powered by 4 AAA sized batteries (supplied), the Franklin Electronic Computer takes the strain off your brain with Spelling Correction. Bookmarks to store your entries, Quizzes and a large 8 line screen with adjustable contrast control. Save £200.00 on the M.R.R.P. at today's special offer price of £199.95 including soft carry case and postage and packing. Give your IQ a break!

HOW TO ORDER (For U.K. residents only) Fill in the coupon quoting your Access/Visa card number, or send with cheque or postal orders, NO CASH, to: THE TIMES ELECTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OFFER TN004, TRUEBELL HOUSE, LOMBARD ROAD, LONDON SW19 3TZ

FAST ORDER: TELEPHONE 081-542 4900

Access and Visa cardholders can use our fast ordering service quoting Ref. TN004. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery. Subject to availability. If you are not fully satisfied, return within 7 days for a full refund.

Please send me: ____ Franklin ElectroniC Encyclopedia/s at £199.95 inc. p&p **TN004**

I enclose my cheque/PO value £____ made payable to: THE TIMES ENCYCLOPEDIA OFFER

Or debit my Access/Visa account with the sum of £____

My card number is: ____ Expiry Date: /

Mr/Mrs/Miss: ____

Address: ____ Signature: ____

Postcode: ____ Daytime Tel. No: ____

☐ Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from The Times or companies approved by them

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: El Salvador 2 United States 2 (San Salvador); Israel 2, Russia 2 (Haifa, Israel).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINALTION LEAGUE: Cup: Swansea 1, Bournemouth 0 First division: Fulham 2, Chelsea 4.

WORLD CUP: Group Four: Cyprus 1, Czech Republic 1 (Limassol).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	6	6	0	0	12	1	12
Romania	5	3	1	1	17	4	7
Czech Rep	4	1	2	1	7	4	4
Wales	4	2	0	2	8	7	4
Cyprus	6	1	1	4	4	10	3
Faroe Islands	5	0	0	5	0	22	0

Previous results: Belgium 1, Cyprus 0; Romania 7, Faroe Isles 0; Romania 5, Wales 1; Faroe Isles 0, Belgium 3; Faroe Isles 0, Cyprus 2; Czech Republic 1, Belgium 2; Wales 6, Faroe Isles 0; Czech Republic 4, Faroe Isles 0, Belgium 1, Romania 0; Cyprus 0, Wales 1; Romania 1, Czech Republic 1; Belgium 2, Wales 0; Cyprus 1, Romania 4; Cyprus 0, Belgium 3. Next match: March 31: Wales v Belgium.

Late results on Tuesday

PREMIER LEAGUE: Crystal Palace 1, Liverpool 1

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham City 3, Barnsley 0; Cambridge United 1, Leicester City 3; Charlton Athletic 0, Wolverhampton Wanderers 1; Grimsby Town 0, Brentford 1; Notts County 4, Southend United 0; Oxford United 1, West Ham United 0; Tranmere Rovers 0, Portsmouth 2; Watford 1, Newcastle United 0. Second division: Blackpool 5, Hull City 1; Bournemouth 1, Plymouth Argyle 3; Burnley 0, Bolton Wanderers 1; Exeter City 0, Reading 0; Fulham 2, Brighton 0; Mansfield Town 3, Leyton Orient 0; Port Vale 1, Huddersfield Town 0; Rotherham United 2, Bradford City 0; Stockport County 4, Hartlepool United 1; Swansea City 1, Stoke City 2; Wigan Athletic 1, Chester City 2. Third division: Bury 1, Cardiff City 0; Chesterfield 2, Halifax Town 1; Colchester United 3, Hereford United 1; Crewe Alexandra 3, York City 1, Gillingham 3, Lincoln City 1; Northampton Town 2, Carlisle United 0; Scarborough 1, Scunthorpe United 2.

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham 0, Runcorn 2; Macclesfield 1, Gateshead 0; Northwich 1, Telford 0; Stafford 0, Boston 0; Woking 0, Bath 1; Wycombe 1, Slough 0, Yeovil 1, Welling 0.

UEFA UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group two: Holland 3, San Marino 0 Group three: Germany 6, Republic of Ireland 0 Group four: Cyprus 0, Czechoslovakia 2.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Marlow 1, Sutton United 1; Windsor and Eton 2, Dulwich 2. Postponed: Yeading v Kingstonian. First division: Aveley 1, Croydon 3, Whyteleafe 0, Abingdon Town 2. Second division: Banstead 2, Malden Vale 0; Berkhamsted 1, Ruislip Manor 0; Harefield 0, Chertsey 2; Tilbury 1, Worthing 3 Third division: Aldershot Town 1, Cove 1; Epsom and Ewell 1, Royston 1, Hanford 1, Kingsbury 0.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 0, Corby 2; Halesowen 2, Cheltenham 1; Trowbridge 4, Hastings 1; VS Rugby 1, Dover 1; Waterlooville 2, Weymouth 1 Midland division: Nuneaton 0, Gresley 1; Rushden and Diamonds 3, RC Warwick 0; Stourbridge 1, Newport AFC 3. Southern division: Bury Town 2, Buckingham 0; Sudbury 1, Ashford 1

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Leek 1, Gainsborough 2. First division: Netherfield 1, Workington 2. Cup: Third-round replay: Radcliffe 1, Great Harwood Town 3

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Luton 3, Watford 4

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Linfield 0, Bangor 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Haverfordwest 3, Ebbw Vale 0; Holywell 2, Conwy 2.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ossett Albion 2, Harrogate Ra 1, Stocksbridge PS 3, Thackley 1

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dawlish 0, Saltash 5; Plymouth Argyle 0, Torquay United 3.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers 0, Prescot 3; Burscough 4, Flixton 1; Clitheroe 2, Bamber Bridge 3, Maine Road (Man) 2, Atherton LR 2, Nantwich 2, St Helens 1. Lamot Pils Trophy: Ellesmere Port Town 0, Maghull 5.

UNDER-16 INTERNATIONAL: France 0, Scotland 0

UNDER-15 INTERNATIONAL: France 1, Scotland 0.

ENGLISH ECCLES TROPHY Semi-final: Isle of Ely 2, Peterborough 0

ENGLISH MARS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Quarter-final: De La Salle, Liverpool 1, High Pavement College, Nottingham 0.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Phoenix Suns 121, New York Knicks 92; Portland Trail Blazers 108, Seattle SuperSonics 99; Chicago Bulls 107, Minnesota Timberwolves 100; Cleveland Cavaliers 127, San Antonio Spurs 90; Houston Rockets 111, Charlotte Hornets 103; Orlando Magic 103, Miami Heat 89; Philadelphia 76ers 86, Denver Nuggets 80; Utah Jazz 119, Indiana Pacers 101; Atlanta Hawks 125, Dallas Mavericks 107; Sacramento Kings 121, Los Angeles Clippers 104.

BOXING

ROTTERDAM: European super-feather-weight title: Regilio Tuur (holder, Holl), bt Michele La Frata (It), rst 6th rnd.

CRICKET

KINGSTON: First one-day international

PAKISTAN 223 for 8 (50 overs) (Aamir Sohail 87, Inzamam-ul-Haq 50).

WEST INDIES

B C Lara b Sohail	114
D L Haynes c Ramiz b Wasim	7
P V Simmons b Mushtaq	28
R B Richardson b Wasim	17
C L Hooper c and b Sohail	21
A L Logie c Mushtaq b Sohail	7
J C Adams not out	11
†J Murray not out	1
Extras (lb 6, w 5, nb 7)	18
Total (6 wkts, 44 overs)	224

I R Bishop, C E L Ambrose and C A Walsh did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-21, 2-101, 3-180, 4-184, 5-197, 6-223.

BOWLING: Wasim 9-0-47-2 (w 1, nb 4); Aaqib 6-0-18-0 (w 3); Waqar 10-1-46-0 (nb 3), Mushtaq 10-0-64-1 (w 1); Sohail 9-0-43-3

Man of the match: B C Lara.

Umpires S U Buckner and L H Barker.

CROQUET

MOAMA, New South Wales: Mac Robertson Shield series: Day two: Singles: C Clarke (GB) bt P Stanley (NZ), 26(bp)-0, 26-23; J Wallace (GB) bt R Baker (NZ), 12-26(bp), 26(bp)-0, 26-14; D Maugham (GB) bt G Bryant (NZ), 26-23, 25-13; D Oppenshaw (GB) level with G Beale (NZ), 26-18, 9-25. Doubles: C Pickering and J Tyrell (Aus) bt T Arkley and B Kreager (US), 26-2, 26-20; B Northey and M Taylor (Aus) bt E Peterson and J Bast (US), 26(bp)-2, 26-0; J Stark and K Jones (US) bt B Chambers and M Prater (Aus), 26-23, 26-15. Leading positions: 1, Britain and Ireland, played, 7, wins, 4; 2, Australia, 7, 4, 3, New Zealand, 7, 2, 4, United States, 7, 2.

CYCLING

LLORET DE MAR, Spain: Catalan Race: Second stage (179km, Spanish unless stated): 1, J Gaston, 4hr 47min 15sec; 2, L Cubino; 3, P Delgado, both same time; 4, L Galli (It), 18sec behind; 5, R Guimergil (It); 6, A Camargo (Col). Third stage (187km): 1, R Pagnin (It), 4hr 36min 58sec; 2, A Diaz, at 1min, 3, L Jalabert (Fr), 1:23; 4, S Wesemann (Ger); 5, A Belli (It); 6, F Baldato (It), 7, F Fontanelli (It), 8, A van der Poel (Hol), 9, P Anderson (Aust); 10, P Silva (Por), all same time. Overall positions: 1, J Gaston 14hr 33min 41sec; 2, L Cubino, 3, P Delgado both same time, 4, L Galli (It), at 16sec; 5, S Della Santa (It); 6, A Camargo (Col); 7, L Dulaux (Switz); 8, R Gusmeroli (It); 9, A Hampsten (US), all same time, 10, Jalabert 25.

EQUESTRIANISM

ADDINGTON MANOR, Buckinghamshire: Dressage selection trials: Grand prix: 1, Giorgione (C Hester), 321 points, 2, Virtu (E Faurie), 905; 3, Vashker (C Parsons), 883, 4, Arun Tor (F Elberg), 873; 5, Tapster (F Elberg), 869; 6, Freja (S Dwyer), 862.

GOLF

US RYDER CUP TEAM STANDINGS: 1, F Couples 515,500pts; 2, T Kite 460,000; 3, J Cook 457,500; 4, D Love 435,000; 5, P Azinger 522,167; 6, M O'Meara 446,250; 7, L Janzen 428,810; 8, J Gallagher 417,500; 9, K Clearwater 404,166; 10, C Pavin 392,500; 11, J Sluman 350,833; 12, J Maggert 351,250; 13, J Sindelar 344,643; 14, L Mize 338,572; 15, B Faxon 323,333; 16, D Forsman 312,583; 17, R Floyd 307,500; 18, J Haas 304,762; 19, S Pate 302,321; 20, C Beck 274,167.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Detroit Red Wings 3, New York Islanders 2; New Jersey Devils 9, Tampa Bay Lightning 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 7, San Jose Sharks 2; Washington Capitals 5, Quebec Nordiques 1; Toronto Maple Leafs 5, Winnipeg Jets 4.

SNOOKER

GOFFS, Co Kildare: Benson & Hedges Irish Masters: First round: J Wattana (Thai) bt D Taylor (N Ire), 5-0. N Bond (Eng) bt G Wilkinson (Eng), 5-3.

TENNIS

HOUSTON: Women's Virginia Slims tournament: First round: D Graham (US) bt A Minter (Aus), 6-3, 6-1; S Hack (Ger) bt L Fernando (It), 2-6, 6-2, 6-2; T Ignatieva (Russ) bt L Golarsa (It), 6-3, 6-2; S Cecchini (It) bt L Harvey-Wild (US), 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; V Martinek (Ger) bt B Fulco-Villela (Arg), 6-0, 2-6, 6-3; V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) bt T Morton (Aus), 7-5, 6-1; K Maleeva (Bul) bt K Kschwendt (Ger), 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; R Simpson-Alter (Can) bt C Kuhlman (US), 6-4, 6-4; P Tarabini (Arg) bt M Maleeva-Fregniere (Switz), 6-3, 6-1; R Zrubakova (Slo) bt A Temesvari (Hun), 6-3, 5-7, 7-6; C Papadaki (Gre) bt J Durie (GB), 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

RUGBY UNION

INTER-SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP: Army 17, Royal Air Force 20 (at Twickenham).

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division: Newport 49, South Wales Police 14; Pontypridd 17, Bridgend 6.

ROSSLYN PARK NATIONAL SCHOOLS SEVENS: Open tournament: Group A: Gravesend 3, Millfield 31; John Cleveland Coll 5, RGS Guildford 45; Millfield 36, King Edward VII, Lancs 5; Gravesend 7, RGS Guildford 24; Gravesend 7, King Edward VII, Lancs 40; Millfield 40, John Cleveland Coll 0; King Edward VII, Lancs, 17, RGS Guildford 21; Gravesend 26, John Cleveland Coll 17; King Edward VII, Lancs, 34, John Cleveland Coll 14; Millfield 21, RGS Guildford 12. Group Winners: Millfield.

Group B: Brynteg 17, Wellington 14; St Edmund's,Ware, 12, Newcastle-under-Lyme 14; Wellington 14, Arnold 26; Brynteg 39, Newcastle-under-Lyme 5; Brynteg 26, Arnold 14; Wellington 7, St Edmund's, Ware 31; Arnold 24, Newcastle-under-Lyme 19; Brynteg 19, St Edmund's, Ware 14; Arnold 14, St Edmund's, Ware 12, Wellington 14, Newcastle-under-Lyme 26. Group Winners: Brynteg.

Group C: Maidstone 0, Hampton 47; Mount St Mary's 7, St Cyres 24; Hampton 33, Ripon 12; Maidstone 7, St Cyres 50; Maidstone 12, Ripon 38; Hampton 21, Mount St Mary's 5; Ripon 7, St Cyres 22; Maidstone 0, Mount St Mary's 29; Ripon 12, Mount St Mary's 12; Hampton 10, St Cyres 33. Group Winners: St Cyres

Group D: RGS High Wycombe 25, Sir Thomas Picton 5; London Oratory 22, St Olave's, Kent 5; Sir Thomas Picton 0, St Bede's 40; RGS High Wycombe 12; St Olave's, Kent 17; RGS High Wycombe 19, St Bede's 7; Sir Thomas Picton 0, London Oratory 36; St Bede's 15, St Olave's, Kent 21; RGS High Wycombe 0, London Oratory 21; St Bede's 5, London Oratory 31; Sir Thomas Picton 7, St Olave's, Kent 59. Group Winners: London Oratory.

Group E: Chichester 14, St Joseph's, Ipswich 24; Llandovery 35, Emanuel 12; St Joseph's, Ipswich, 12, St Edward's, Liverpool 24; Chichester 21, Emanuel 12; Chichester 14, St Edward's, Liverpool 40; St Joseph's, Ipswich, 19, Llandovery 19; St Edward's, Liverpool, 24, Emanuel 7; Chichester 0, Llandovery 40; St Edward's, Liverpool, 12, Llandovery 31; St Joseph's, Ipswich, 45, Emanuel 7. Group Winners: Llandovery.

Group F: Warwick 26, Tasker Milward 7; Eltham 38, Gunnersbury 7; Tasker Milward 7, Birkenhead 24; Warwick 40, Gunnersbury 7; Warwick 14, Birkenhead 19; Tasker Milward 0, Eltham 38; Birkenhead, 45, Gunnersbury 5; Warwick 0, Eltham 47; Birkenhead 5, Eltham 31; Tasker Milward 26, Gunnersbury 21. Group Winners: Eltham.

Group G: Chislehurst and Sidcup 38, Belmont Abbey 25; Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet 5, Reigate 35; Belmont Abbey 0, Wirral 26; Reigate 26, Chislehurst and Sidcup 14; Chislehurst and Sidcup 12, Wirral 26; Belmont Abbey 5, Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet 31; Wirral 15, Reigate 7; Chislehurst and Sidcup 19, Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet 29; Wirral 33, Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet 5; Belmont Abbey 7, Reigate 45. Group winners: Wirral

Group H: Bassaleg 18, City of London Freeman's 33; Coopers' and Coborn 14, Nottingham 10; City of London Freeman's 14, King's, Macclesfield 21; Bassaleg 7 Nottingham 19; Bassaleg 19, King's, Macclesfield 18; City of London Freeman's 26 Coopers' and Coborn 26; King's, Macclesfield 14, Nottingham 7; Bassaleg 19, Coopers' and Coborn 35; King's, Macclesfield 26, Coopers' and Coborn 7; City of London Freeman's 19, Nottingham 48. Group winners: King's, Macclesfield.

Group I: John Fisher 12, Tiffin 15; Rydal 14, Aylesbury GS 10; Tiffin 6, Bradford GS 47; John Fisher 12, Aylesbury GS 19; John Fisher 10, Bradford GS 36; Tiffin 33, Rydal 7; Bradford GS 31, Aylesbury GS 0; John Fisher 19 Rydal 12; Bradford GS 35, Rydal 0; Tiffin 17, Aylesbury GS 5. Group winners: Bradford GS.

Group J: Strade 43, Broxbourne 0; Campion 17, Judd 7; Broxbourne 7, Manchester GS 27; Strade 21, Judd 5; Strade 21, Manchester GS 12; Broxbourne 0, Campion 45; Manchester GS 17, Judd 12; Strade 26, Campion 5; Manchester GS 5, Campion 19; Broxbourne 0, Judd 35. Group winners: Strade.

Group K: Ampleforth 47, Dartford 0; Caerleon 26, Dame Alice Owen's 7; Dartford 40, De Aston 7; Ampleforth 47, Dame Alice Owen's 5; Ampleforth 61, De Aston 0; Dartford 7, Caerleon 29; De Aston 33, Dame Alice Owen's 14; Ampleforth 50, Caerleon 0; De Aston 17, Caerleon 12; Dartford 33, Dame Alice Owen's 17. Group Winners: Ampleforth

Group L: Bethany 26, King Edward VI, Nuneaton 0; RGS Newcastle - 27, St Benedict's 0; King Edward VI, Nuneaton 7, Saintbridge 22; Bethany 19, St Benedict's 7; Bethany 21, Saintbridge 7; King Edward VI, Nuneaton 0, RGS Newcastle 50; Saintbridge 0, St Benedict's 31; Bethany 10, RGS Newcastle 40; Saintbridge 10, RGS Newcastle 31; King Edward VI, Nuneaton 5, St Benedict's 27 Group winners: RGS Newcastle.

Group M: Solihull 19, Glenalf 14; Minster 7, Latymer Upper 17; Glenalf 15, Merchant Taylors' 28; Solihull 19, Latymer Upper 17; Solihull 38, Merchant Taylors' 5; Glenalf 17, Minster 0; Merchant Taylors' 7, Latymer Upper 33; Solihull 33, Minster 0; Merchant Taylors' 52, Minster 7; Glenalf 12, Latymer Upper 12. Group winners: Solihull.

Group N: St George's, Harpenden 21, Enfield GS 19; Bishop Gore 10, Stonyhurst 5; Enfield GS 14, Hymers 47; St George's, Harpenden 0, Stonyhurst 36; St George's, Harpenden 17, Hymers 19; Enfield GS 0, Bishop Gore 24; Hymers 12, Stonyhurst 19; St George's, Harpenden 12, Bishop Gore 22; Hymers 17, Bishop Gore 19; Enfield GS 8, Stonyhurst 19. Group winners: Bishop Gore.

Juniors: Quarter-finals: City of London Freeman's 7, Dulwich 20; Bishopston 14, Reigate 5; Bristol 10, London Oratory 13; Hymers 31, Bradford GS 7. Semi-finals: Dulwich 55, Bishopston 0; London Oratory 33, Hymers 5. Final: Dulwich 17, London Oratory 7.

Preparatory schools: Quarter-finals: The Downs 7, Clayesmore 12; Prior Park 19, St Johns Beaumont, Beska 7; Woolborough Hill 10, Caldicott 12; Clifton 5, St Mary's Hall 10. Semi-finals: Clayesmore 0, Caldicott 17; Prior Park 5, St Mary's Hall 0. Final: Caldicott 22, Prior Park 0.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

GM Vauxhall Conference

Dagenham & Redbridge v Wycombe

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Sutton v Harrow; Yeading v Kingstonian.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield United v Nottingham Forest; Stoke v Sunderland (7.0). Second division: Scunthorpe v Coventry (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION LEAGUE: First division: QPR v Crystal Palace (7.0); Tottenham v West Ham (2.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

Second division

Huddersfield v London Crusaders ...

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

Cross Keys v Lince (Arg) (7.0) .....

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: English women's championships. (Stevenage).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish masters (Goffs, County Kildare).

THE TIMES

RACING

Commentary

Call 0891 500 123

Results

Call 0891 100 123

Calls cost 36p per min cheap rate, 48p per min at all other times

MATCHES PLAYED 20TH MARCH 1993

LITTLEWOODS POOLS

THIS WEEK'S TOP WINNERS INCLUDE

DERBYSHIRE MAN £361,626

PLUS 8 WINNERS OF OVER £213,000 EACH

TREBLE CHANCE – MAX 21½ Pts. NO CLIENT WITH 21½ Pts. TOP DIV. FOR ONLY 21 Pts.

21 Pts	£70,002.40
20½ Pts	£781.85
20 Pts	£196.15
19½ Pts	£22.50
19 Pts	£7.35
18½ Pts	£2.50

6 Dividends Only, See Rule 9(i)

4 DRAWS	£345.95
10 HOMES	£2.45
5 AWAYS	£2,487.95

Expenses and Commission 6th March 1993 - 31.3%. All dividends subject to reduction

GRAND NATIONAL

LITTLEWOODS DOUBLE CHANCE POOL

SEE APRIL 3rd COUPON FOR DETAILS

FOR COUPONS PHONEFREE 0800 800 000 – 24HRS

Richard Evans meets a trainer eager to cast off last year's ills

Hills directs South Bank show

The opening day of a new turf Flat season: a time for dreams as the classics, Royal Ascot and delights of Chester, York and Goodwood beckon.

Few trainers have more reason to look forward to Doncaster today than Barry Hills. It was at Town Moor 25 years ago that the then travelling head lad to John Oxley landed a massive touch on Frankincense in the Lincoln and with his £30,000 winnings bought South Bank stables in Lambourn from where he trains today.

A year ago, Hills's fondness for the course was confirmed when he opened the new campaign with a winning double. As he travelled home, the dapper trainer had every reason to believe the new season would bring its usual abundance of winners, successful gambles and fun. Little did he know that the dream start would soon turn into a nightmare as a double dose of the virus paralysed his stable.

For four long months, Hills was in despair as his horses became sicker and sicker. By September he had only mustered 24 winners, compared to the normal 80 or 90. When, at last, the equine plague relented, the winners flowed — and the season ended.

As Hills oversaw first lot yesterday, on the rolling downs overlooking Seven Barrows, the hopes for 1993 had begun to challenge the heartache of 1992. "It is all about keeping horses healthy. You can have the worst lot of horses but if they are right and well you will have a great season. You can have the best horses but if they aren't right it is a disaster."

With the prospect of up to six runners at Doncaster over the next three days, Hills was in a buoyant mood. On a morning made in heaven, he watched approvingly as Further Flight, his Ascot Gold Cup hope, led a dozen small groups of horses in a strong canter over six furlongs on the gallops left of the Farringdon Road. "The horses are in good nick," he reported.

Hills relishes what he described as the "proper circuit" of racing: starting with the Craven meeting, taking in Chester, Epsom, York, the July meeting, Glorious Goodwood, the Ebor and St Leger meetings, before returning to Newmarket. "That's what I am really interested in, not so much the other places. I like Sandown and going to Ireland and France if I have a horse that is good enough, but the traditional English pattern of racing is what matters and I hope they don't muck it up."

The traditionalist streak in Hills is in stark contrast to a perceptive foresight which has consistently enabled him to see and react to changes in racing long before many of his fellow trainers.

Despite having only six of Robert Sangster's horses compared to 66 in the heady days of Manton and having fewer from Shaikh Mohammed, he still has a 113-strong string, similar to last year. "I have done well to keep numbers up. I have had to go out and get owners. I can't run a hotel on empty bedrooms."

More significantly, Hills is now toying with the radical idea of building a £1 million training complex "to cope with the modern world."

"Whatever Lord Howard de Walden might say about the lifestyle of trainers, or grooms as he calls us, it's hard to make money out of training. It's an expensive business if you do it right because you have to employ a lot of people.

"We are outdated; our premises are outdated. They all need knocking down and rebuilding closer to the gallops. We should pay lads more and charge owners less, like every other industry in the country. Racing has not adapted because we have no way of doing it."

Ideally, Hills would like to build a new yard with American-style barns close to the gallops, possibly in conjunction with a business partner.

But such plans are for tomorrow. Today, Dee Raft is what matters in the last race. And tomorrow, there is the well-handicapped Snow Board in the stayers' handicap.

As for the the months ahead, Hills spoke glowingly of Yawl, his progressive Rockfel Stakes winner, Bawaeth and the once-raced Pamzig. Of the colts, Factual, third in the Middle Park, received favourable mention along with Blues Traveller, Tychonic and Majority.

The dreams are in full flow. Hopefully, this year they will not be so cruelly shattered.



JULIAN HERBERT

Watchful eye: Hills supervising first lot on the Lambourn gallops yesterday

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: LACKENDARA (Stratford, 2.50)
Next best: Mondragon (Doncaster, 4.35)

Penza in action at Doncaster

JEFF Penza is the latest overseas jockey to parade his talent in Britain when he makes his turf riding debut at Doncaster today. The Australian, aged 21, partners the Clive Brittain-trained Alflora, sixth in last season's Derby, in the Doncaster Mile.

Penza was secured by Brittain primarily to act as a stand-in for Michael Roberts when the South African rides for his main retainer, Shaikh Mohammed.

The Newmarket trainer said: "He's on an open-ended retainer and will ride for the stable whenever wanted. I watched him in action in Australia and was impressed with the way he rode. With Michael taking the Sheikh Mohammed job, this is a good opportunity for him. I am also very impressed with his commitment and we are going to give him every chance."

Penza will be hoping to make considerable improvement on his only previous ride in this country — on the Lingfield all-weather track earlier this month. His mount, Noora's Pride, was tailed off in fifth place.

Meanwhile, Roberts is a 6-4 on chance to retain his jockeys' title and 11-8 to ride another double century of winners this year.

Ladbrokes narrowly favour the South African in his duel with rival Pat Eddery, who is 11-10 for the championship and 2-1 to ride 200 winners.

Willie Carson is a 20-1 chance in the title race with the same firm, who then bet 25-1 Richard Quinn and 33-1 Ray Cochrane, now retained by Luca Cumani.

Lester Piggott is 100-1 but a better bet could be the 66-1 against him riding two or more classic winners. Jack Berry is 4-1 to train 150 or more winners in Britain.

☐ The National Hunt jockey Derek Byrne has lodged an appeal against a ten-day ban imposed at Newcastle on Saturday for reckless riding. The Jockey Club's disciplinary committee will hear his case at Portman Square tomorrow.

DONCASTER

THUNDERER
1.55 Broughton's Tango. 2.30 Me Neither. 3.05 Mister Jolson. 3.35 Mellottie. 4.05 Sword Master. 4.35 MONDRAGON (nap).

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Indian Dreamer. 3.05 Bold Habit. 3.35 ALFLORA (nap).

Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.35 BRACKENTHWAITE.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST; 1M STRAIGHT, LOW NUMBERS BEST; ROUND COURSE, LOW NUMBERS HAVE SLIGHT ADVANTAGE

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

1.55 RACEFORM APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£3,261: 1m 4f) (20 runners)

1 (9) 02006- PARADISE NAVY 272 (W Bradley) R Wright 4-10-0 ... B Doyle (3) 85
2 (6) 222000- LABURNUM 146 (G) (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 5-10-0 ... D Thomas (7) 85
3 (5) 3331/50- LEGION OF HONOUR 13J (D,F) (Robson Partnership) M Naughton 5-9-8 ... J Weaver 85
4 (8) 0302-34 FIVE TO SEVEN 17 (D) (The Five to Seven Partnership) S Norton 4-9-6 ... D Pears (3) 87
5 (1) 163000- ROUSITTO 138 (D,F,S) (Mrs G Maloney) R Hollinshead 5-9-4 ... J Dennis (5) 89
6 (12) 011262- GREAT MAX 28J (V,F,S) (R Green) M Jarvis 4-9-4 ... K Rutter (3) 93
7 (14) 22330-2 BESCABY BOY 17 (F,G,S) (W Wharton) J Wharton 7-9-0 ... S D Williams 92
8 (11) 112104- NORTHERN GRADUATE 148 (C,F,G) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-13 ... S Maloney 93
9 (2) 430-823 SINCLAIR LAD 9 (C,F,S) (Mrs R Dobson) R Hodges 5-8-12 ... S Drowne (5) 98
10 (3) 521422 SUGEMAR 7 (D,F) (M O'Toole) M Chapman 7-8-9 ... D McCabe (5) 99
11 (20) 00/5640- POST IMPRESSIONIST 127 (J Furlong) J Pearce 4-8-9 ... F Norton 88
12 (10) 616500- KALKO 12J (F) (M Wilan) M Hammond 4-8-8 ... N Kennedy (3) 97
13 (18) 00-0500 MAHZOOZ 24 (J Pearce) J Pearce 4-8-4 ... Elizabeth Turner (7) 83
14 (16) 461342- BROUGHTON'S TANGO 23J (B) (S Lansdown) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-1 ... D Wright (5) 97
15 (19) 035005- ARRASTRA 15J (F) (R Lee) R Lee 5-8-1 ... A Tucker 91
16 (7) 0000-36 EIRE LEATH-SCEAL 27 (D,F,G) (M Brittain) M Brittain 6-8-1 ... J Marshall (5) 91
17 (13) 143233 WELL AND TRULY 7 (D) (P Freeman) B McMahon 6-7-9 ... A Garth (5) 98
18 (17) 3305/00- RIMOUSKI 22J (J Stevenson) B Cambidge 5-7-7 ... Claire Balding (5) –
19 (15) 000535- QUEENS TOUR 23J (G,S) (T Kersey) T Kersey 8-7-7 ... S McCarthy (5) 88
20 (4) 235000- DEMOKOS 29J (D,F,G) (D Walsh) A Stringer 8-7-7 ... Darren Moffatt (5) 82

Long handicap: Rimouski 7-1, Queens Tour 6-10, Demokos 6-8.

BETTING: 4-1 Sugemar, 5-1 Bescaby Boy, 13-2 Great Max, 8-1 Five To Seven, Laburnum, 10-1 Legion Of Honour, 12-1 Broughton's Tango, Northern Graduate, 14-1 Sinclair Lad, 16-1 Well And Truly, 20-1 others.

1992: MR CONFUSION 4-8-12 D Pears (14-1) S Norton 23 ran

2.30 PHILIP CORNES BROCKLESBY CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,687: 5f) (12 runners) — C4

1 (6) BANDON CASTLE (The Bisiso Racing Partnership) B Rothwell 8-11 ... D Harrison (3) –
2 (7) CLANCY'S EXPRESS (Mrs J Cleary) M Muggeridge 8-11 ... J Carroll –
3 (8) CLOSE TO REALITY (Mrs B Southam) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11 ... K Fallon –
4 (1) CULSYTH FLYER (W Colby) R Hollinshead 8-11 ... W Ryan –
5 (10) HILTONS TRAVEL (Mrs D Jones) E Alston 8-11 ... Stephen Davies (5) –
6 (5) INDIAN DREAMER (R Holt) M Bell 8-11 ... M Hills –
7 (4) MAKE THE BREAK (Mrs J Regler) R Hannon 8-11 ... B Rouse –
8 (11) SALVOR (N Hetherton) J Hetherton 8-11 ... W Newnes –
9 (3) TOP SHOW (P Wolfe) K Hogg 8-11 ... A Munro –
10 (12) VALIANT MAN (J Ross) J Wharton 8-11 ... J Williams –
11 (9) WINDOW DISPLAY (Sheet & Roll Convertors Ltd) M Camacho 8-11 ... NON-RUNNER –
12 (2) ME NEITHER (Mrs J Berry) J Berry 8-6 ... J Carroll –

BETTING: 7-4 Me Neither, 3-1 Indian Dreamer, 4-1 Close To Reality, 6-1 Make The Break, 10-1 others.

1992: TOUCH SILVER 8-11 D Holland (9-1 fav) B Hills 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

BANDON CASTLE (foaled Jan 28, cost Ir1,200gns) is a half-brother, by Exhibitioner, to smart juvenile Northern Chimes. Dam 1m winner. CULSYTH FLYER (Apr 5, 2,600gns) is a half-brother, by Nomination, to 7f winner Aragona. Dam placed over 6f. HILTONS TRAVEL (Mar 31, 2,000gns) is a brother to Sunset Reins Free, winner of 3 races over 1m. Dam unraced. INDIAN DREAMER (Mar 31, 7,500gns) is a second foal, by Midyan. Dam won over 6f as a juvenile. MAKE THE BREAK (Feb 18) is a first foal, by Dominion. Dam unraced half-sister to smart Irish sprinter Beaudelaire. TOP SHOW (Apr 27) is a half-brother, by Digamist, to useful sprinter Chellaston Park. Dam won two races over 5f. ME NEITHER (Apr 24, 4,400gns) is a half-sister, by Risk Me, to middle-distance winner Swephi Gunner. Dam won ten races at 5f-6f.
No selection

3.05 RACEFORM UPDATE HANDICAP (£3,817: 5f) (15 runners) — C4

1 (13) 305060- EAGER DEVA 175 (CD,F,G) (Mrs E Faulkner) R Hollinshead 6-10-0 ... S Wynne (5) 93
2 (12) 00-0423 BOLD HABIT 47 (D,BF,F,G) (M Baxter) J Pearce 8-9-13 ... R Cochrane 95
3 (6) 120050- SIGAMA 138 (D,F) (Mrs B Lee) F Lee 7-9-11 ... N Kennedy (3) 96
4 (5) 602000- AMRON 158 (CD,F,G,S) (R Peebles) J Berry 6-9-9 ... N Carlisle 98
5 (4) 160601- DRUM SERGEANT 169 (B,C,D,F,S) (W Sellers) J Parkes 6-9-9 ... Pat Eddery 92
6 (11) 411040- FIRST GOLD 191 (F,S) (J Ashby) J Wharton 4-9-0 ... M Birch 88
7 (14) 300-436 MARTINA 56 (D,F) (M Yarrow) J Wharton 5-8-11 ... J Williams 92
8 (2) 845364 SIR TASKER 9 (D,F,G) (J Coupland) J Harris 5-8-10 ... T Quinn 94
9 (3) 432-164 MISTER JOLSON 26 (D,F) (J Mursell) R Hodges 4-8-7 ... W Carson 97
10 (9) 0/616-06 SLADES HILL 17 (D,F,G) (A Gerrie) T Barron 6-8-7 ... Alex Greaves 84
11 (1) 313242 EWALD 17 (D) (Mark Johnston Racing Ltd) M Johnston 5-8-6 ... B Doyle (5) 99
12 (10) 0-00035 ARC LAMP 1 (D,F,G) (B Bruce) J Glover 7-8-5 ... Dale Gibson 93
13 (7) 021262- MISS MOVIE WORLD 175 (D,S) (S Johnson) N Bycroft 4-8-4 ... A Munro 96
14 (8) 192105- GANESHAYA 185 (B,CD,G,S) (Abbots Caravan Park) M Banaclough 4-8-0 ... J Lowe 92
15 (15) 0000/80 MISS EL ARAB 24 (D,F,G) (M Graham) E Alston 5-7-13 ... J Quinn –

BETTING: 6-1 Drum Sergeant, 7-1 Mister Jolson, 8-1 Amron, Ewald, Miss Movie World, 10-1 Bold Habit, Sir Tasker, 12-1 Eager Deva, First Gold, 14-1 Arc Lamp, Sigama, 16-1 others.

1992: CINDORA 3-8-8 C Hodgson (11-2) M Tompkins 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BOLD HABIT 3½l 2nd of 9 to Spencer's Revenge in a handicap at Lingfield on penultimate start (AW, 7f, standard). SIGAMA 1½l 2nd of 10 to Viceroy in a valuable handicap at Newcastle in July (5f, good to firm), with EAGER DEVA (7lb better off) 9½l 10th. AMRON, won at this meeting last year, beat Paajib 3l in a 15-runner handicap (5f, good). DRUM SERGEANT beat Crystal Heights a short head in a 15-runner handicap at York (6f, good to firm). MARTINA 5¾l 3rd of 11 to Prime Mover in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 5f). SIR TASKER around ½l 3rd of 10 to Spender in a handicap at Lingfield (AW, 6f), with MISTER JOLSON (5lb better off) 4l 4th. Beat Jovial Kate a neck in a 9-runner handicap at Redcar in April (5f, good to firm), with SLADES HILL (7lb worse off) around 1¾l 6th.
EWALD 1½l 2nd of 7 to Love Legend in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 5f, standard), with SLADES HILL (2lb better off) 10l 5th. ARC LAMP 10l 5th to Celestial Key in a handicap at Southwell yesterday (AW, 5f, standard). Previously, around ½l 3rd of 11 to Skip Cartoon in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 5f, standard), with EWALD (7lb better off) ½l 4th. SLADES HILL (11lb better off) 6l 8th and MISS EL ARAB (6lb better off) 2½l 10th. MISS MOVIE WORLD ½l 2nd of 15 to Ashtina in a handicap at Newmarket (5f, good), with EAGER DEVA (6lb better off) 10½l 15th.
Selection: BOLD HABIT

3.35 DONCASTER 2000 MILE (Listed race: £11,062: 1m str) (9 runners) — C4

1 (8) 0/40110- KARINGA BAY 173 (D,F,G) (K Higson) G Moore 6-9-8 ... B Rouse 90
2 (5) 1/02101- MELLOTTIE 180 (CD,F) (Mrs J Fulton) Mrs M Reveley 8-9-6 ... J Lowe 98
3 (7) 532243- ALFLORA 193 (F) (Circlechart Ltd) C Brittain 4-9-3 ... J Penza 99
4 (9) 5-02452 AMENABLE 19 (CD,F,G,S) (J McManamon) R Spicer 8-9-3 ... W Woods 78
5 (6) /5003-1 KNOCK TO ENTER 19 (F) (R Payne) M Williams 5-9-3 ... J Williams 79
6 (2) 2/1600- TOP REGISTER 218 (S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-3 ... A Munro 84
7 (3) 4/03050- PEARL ANGEL 188 (G) (E Stanley) D Loder 4-9-1 ... L Dettori 86
8 (4) 31436-3 DOUBLE FLUTTER 19 (F) (J Mitchell) M Channon 4-8-12 ... W Newnes 80
9 (1) 132140- NOMINATOR 149 (F,G) (J Gaihard) R Hollinshead 3-8-3 ... W Ryan 93

BETTING: 6-4 Mellottie, 3-1 Alflora, 5-1 Karinga Bay, 7-1 Nominator, 10-1 Pearl Angel, 14-1 Amenable, 16-1 others.

1992: DAROS 3-8-0 A Munro (9-1) Mrs J Ramsden 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

KARINGA BAY beat Sugunas ½l in a 10-runner group II race at Baden-Baden, on penultimate start, in August (1m 2f, good). MELLOTTIE beat Rainbow Corner 1l in an 11-runner listed race at Newmarket (1m 1f, good to firm). ALFLORA 9l 3rd of 8 to Dr Devious in the group I Irish Champion Stakes at Leopardstown (1m 2f, yielding). Previously, 8½l 5th of 7 to Alnasr Alwasheek in the group II Dante Stakes at York (1m 2f 110yd, good to firm), with TOP REGISTER ½l 6th.
AMENABLE 3l 2nd of 12 to Chatham Island in a handicap at Lingfield (AW, 1m 2f, standard). Beat St Ninian 1½l in the 22-runner Lincoln Handicap over course and distance, in March 1991 (soft). KNOCK TO ENTER beat Absonal 3l in a 14-runner claimer at Lingfield (AW, 7f).
NOMINATOR around 5l 4th of 11 to Beggarman Thief in the group III Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury (7f 110yd, soft). Previously, beat Urgent Request a neck in an 8-runner listed race at Newmarket (7f, good).
Selection: ALFLORA (nap)

4.05 FORTE LADIES ONLY HANDICAP (Amateurs: £3,494: 1m 2f 60yd) (18 runners) — C4

1 (11) 2/20012- CHIEF OF STAFF 176 (F) J Pearce 4-11-7 ... Mrs C Wilkinson (5) 90
2 (18) 246-131 SWORD MASTER 28 (G) (I Vogt) Bob Jones 4-11-0 ... Miss Diane J Jones (5) 98
3 (15) 340635- DAWN FLIGHT 157 Lady Herries 4-10-7 ... Mrs Madne Cowdrey (5) 90
4 (13) 151102- LOTS OF LUCK 138 (D,BF,F,G,S) J Pearce 10-10-6 ... Mrs L Pearce 88
5 (4) 206452 RIPSNORTER 7 (S) (P Purdy) J Bennett 4-10-2 ... Miss A Purdy (5) 88
6 (18) 66503- BALZINO 135 (K Whelden) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-10 ... Mrs S Cumani 99
7 (14) 13-3465 TAUNTING 33 (D) (B Oxton) M Blanshard 5-9-9 ... Miss S A Billot 84
8 (10) 605-060 BREEZED WELL 28 (F,G) (Mrs H Noonan) B Cambidge 7-9-8 ... Mrs H Noonan (5) 88
9 (7) 033016- THE KARAOKE KING 121 (B,F) (P Boggis) R Hannon 4-9-5 ... Mrs J Boggis (5) 83
10 (8) 6644/ SHAHMIZAM 1996 (B Cambidge) B Cambidge 9-9-3 ... Miss P Robson –
11 (5) 5006-04 OUR EDDIE 9 (V) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 4-9-0 ... Mrs M Busby (5) 98
12 (17) 00600-0 MAY SQUARE 82 (F) (Mrs V Rapkins) Mrs A Knight 5-9-0 ... Miss D Pomeroy (5) 92
13 (7) 020110 ALBERT 26 (BF,F,G,S) (T Riley-Smith) D Wilson 6-9-0 ... Mrs D Arbuthnot (5) 89
14 (3) 333/000- MILLIE 148J (D,F) (S Robinson) G Fleming 5-9-0 ... Miss S Judge (5) –
15 (6) 200200- CHEEKY POT 34J (B,D,S) (Miss L Davies) Denys Smith 5-9-0 ... Miss M Carson (5) 81
16 (2) 400000- REZA 29J (C Barker) J Eyre 5-9-0 ... Mrs C Hirst (5) 82
17 (9) 0000/ BRENDA HUNT 619 (J Moore) J Moore 4-9-0 ... Mrs S Moore (5) –
18 (12) 60/00 KAYMONT 66 (Mrs G Rees) J H Wilson 5-9-0 ... Miss J Bond (5) –

Long handicap: Our Eddie 8-13, May Square 8-10, Albert 8-8, Millie 8-5, Cheeky Pot 8-3, Reza 8-3, Brenda Hunt 8-1, Kaymont 7-3.

BETTING: 4-1 Sword Master, 5-1 The Karaoke King, 8-1 Albert, Lots Of Luck, 8-1 Balzino, 10-1 Chief Of Staff, 14-1 Ripsnorter, 16-1 others.

1992: I PERCEIVE 5-10-6 Mrs G Rees (12-1) F Lee 22 ran

FORM FOCUS

SWORD MASTER beat Awesome Power 2½l in a 7-runner handicap at Lingfield (AW, 1m 4f, standard). LOTS OF LUCK neck 2nd of 24 to Pippin Park in a ladies' handicap, over course and distance (good), with THE KARAOKE KING (same terms) 15½l 16th.
RIPSNORTER 1l 2nd of 11 to Mentalasanythin in a Southwell handicap (AW, 1m, standard). BALZINO 3½l 3rd of 15 to Noted Strain in a claimer at Southwell (AW, 1m 4f). THE KARAOKE KING beat Caspian Beluga 2½l in a 10-runner at Lingfield handicap on penultimate start (AW, 1m 4f, standard). ALBERT beat Super Lunar a short head in a 9-runner handicap at Lingfield on penultimate start (AW, 1m 4f, standard).
Selection: SWORD MASTER

4.35 BACK A WINNER BY TRAIN HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £5,005: 1m 2f 60yd) (13 runners)

1 (10) 056502- PERSIAN REVIVAL 138 (F) (Mrs P Sturgess) B McMahon 9-7 ... T Quinn 90
2 (13) 513210- BRIGANTE DI CIELO 152 (G,S) (P Christey) R Hannon 9-6 ... B Raymond 83
3 (9) 2-12 DEE RAFT 35 (BF) (D Pickering) B Hills 9-0 ... D Holland 89
4 (8) 4065-0 MR GENEALOGY 28 (B) (B Foster) R Johnson Houghton 8-10 ... W Ryan 80
5 (12) 2030- MONDRAGON 138 (BF) (Skeltools Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 8-9 ... R Cochrane 88
6 (1) 420310- WAHEM 152 (C,F) (F Salla) C Brittain 8-9 ... L Dettori 80
7 (7) 050- MOON CARNIVAL 181 (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk) Lady Herries 8-8 ... J Reid 80
8 (3) 005510- DUTOSKY 135 (BF,S) (Lord Matthews) R Williams 8-7 ... W Carson 96
8 (6) 004513- DOC COTTRILL 152 (BF,S) (K Whelden) Mrs J Ramsden 8-6 ... K Fallon 88
10 (5) 481352- ARGYLE CAVALIER 171 (S) (E Jones (Paints) Ltd) F Lee 8-4 ... G Carter 96
11 (4) 042645- ARC BRIGHT 147 (J Begg) R Hollinshead 8-2 ... A Munro 89
12 (2) 0-01121 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 35 (D) (Broughton Insulation) W Musson 7-11 ... J Quinn 93
13 (11) 08-1111 BRACKENTHWAITE 28 (D) (Alex Gorrie) T Barron 7-7 ... J Fanning 99

Long handicap: Brackenthwaite 7-5.

BETTING: 11-4 Dutosky, 4-1 Doc Cottrill, 11-2 Argyle Cavalier, 13-2 Brackenthwaite, 8-1 Broughtons Formula, Dee Raft, 14-1 Brigante Di Cielo, Mondragon, 16-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
B Hills	22	95	23.2	Mrs M Cowdrey	3	7	42.9
M Jarvis	7	39	17.9	J Weaver	6	25	24.0
J Berry	12	88	13.6	Pat Eddery	39	164	23.8
R Hannon	20	149	13.4	B Raymond	21	132	15.9
Mrs M Reveley	6	45	13.3	M Hills	15	98	15.3
Mrs J Ramsden	14	120	11.7	W Ryan	14	92	15.2

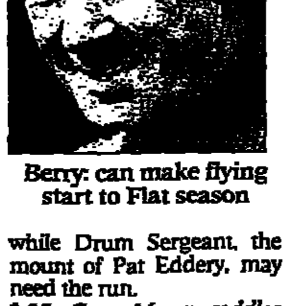


TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

DONCASTER
C4

2.30: Me Neither represents a stable whose runners are usually ready early. Jack Berry considers her a sharp sort and her sire, Risk Me, gets his share of two-year-old winners. Indian Dreamer and Make The Break are also from stables likely to have their juveniles forward in condition.

3.05: Berry can complete a double with **Amron**, who has won first time out at the last two Doncaster March meetings. This trip suits him well and he can handle fast ground. Sir Tasker, back to his optimum distance, is fairly treated on his best form while Mister Jolson has been running well on the all-weather. Bold Habit's best form is over longer trips while Drum Sergeant, the mount of Pat Eddery, may need the run.



Berry: can make flying start to Flat season

3.35: Gary Moore saddles Karinga Bay, his first runner for owner Ken Higson, while another debutant is the Australia rider Jeff Penza, who partners the useful Alflora for Newmarket trainer Clive Brittain. However, Mary Reveley's **Mellottie** is likely to beat them both. This much-improved eight-year-old ended last term with a fine victory over Rainbow Corner in a Newmarket listed race.

4.05: Lots Of Luck will command a big following with champion lady rider Lydia Pearce again in the saddle. Preference is for **Sword Master**, who has been in excellent form on the all-weather, winning two of his three starts.

DICK HINDER

STRATFORD

THUNDERER
2.20 Wiltoski. 2.50 Lackendara. 3.20 Major Match. 3.50 Mr Tittle Tattle. 4.20 Ardesee. 4.50 Bilbo Baggins.

Brian Beel: 4.20 Senator Of Rome.

GOING: FIRM (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) — SIS

2.20 STUDLEY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,810: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

1 466P WILTOSKI 9 (V,D,F) I Campbell 5-12-0 ... R Campbell
2 -P30 COBB GATE 8 B Stevens 5-11-7 ... M Stevens (7)
3 41U4 LOXLEY RANGE 10 (V,D,S) O Brennan 5-11-7 ... M Brennan
4 20P0 SOVEREIGN NICHE 8 (D,G) A Barrow 5-11-7 ... Peter Hobbs
5 0421 DAILY SPORT GIRL 19 (CD,G) B Llewellyn 4-11-3 ... Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
6 5814 FLUIDITY 22 (D) E Buckley 5-11-2 ... H Davies
7 P332 CANDLE KING 16 (B,G) H Manners 5-10-11 ... A Tory
8 3221 CLASSIC EXHIBIT 161 (D,G) A Forbes 4-10-11 ... T Eley (5)
9 P0U0 ALDINGTON BABY MAE 34 C Trietline 5-10-7 ... D Bridgwater
10 0650 BELLING BELLING 22 C Jones 5-10-6 ... D Ford (7)
11 04P5 WREKIN COLLEGE 14 (B) D Gandolfo 5-10-2 ... A S Smith
12 0F0 AFFIRMED'S DESTINY 29 W Clay 4-10-1 ... Diane Clay
13 6U05 B'N'B LADY 41 R Evans 5-10-0 ... A Webb

7-2 Daily Sport Girl, 9-2 Wrekin College, 6-1 Candle King, 7-1 Classic Exhibit, 8-1 Wiltoski, 10-1 Fluidity, Loxley Range, 16-1 Sovereign Niche, 20-1 others.

2.50 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£1,957: 2m 110yd) (6)

1 F431 LACKENDARA 33 (D,S) Miss H Knight 6-11-10 ... J Osborne
2 1540 CYPRUS 9 (B,D,G) Miss J Doyle 5-11-5 ... S Curran (7)
3 /P0P- ANOTHER DETAIL 416 W John Smith 7-11-0 ... L Harvey
4 FB04 DAN DE LYON 19 D Nicholson 5-11-0 ... W Marston (3)
5 00 ARTIC WINGS 104 O Brennan 5-10-9 ... M Brennan
6 P-3 FOOLISH SOPRANO 83 N Henderson 7-10-9 ... N Williamson

5-4 Lackendara, 3-1 Foolish Soprano, 9-2 Cyprus, 10-1 Dan De Lyon, 20-1 Arctic Wings, 25-1 Another Detail.

3.20 BISHOPTON HANDICAP CHASE (£2,765: 2m 4f) (6)

1 2005 MAJOR MATCH 21 (C,D,F,G,S) T Forster 11-12-0 ... H Davies
2 2U01 ERRANT KNIGHT 19 (C,D,G,S) M Pipe 9-11-8 ... P Scudamore
3 1844 MAD CASANOVA 44 (B,D,G,S) R O'Sullivan 8-10-12 ... D O'Sullivan (3)
4 6-11 GREEN ISLAND 197 (F) A Dunn 7-10-10 ... Peter Hobbs
5 F361 VULRORY'S CLOWN 10 (D,F,G,S) O Brennan 15-10-5 (7ex) ... M Brennan
6 P621 AIR COMMANDER 17 (C,F,G) Mrs P Joynes 8-10-2 ... T Wall

9-4 Errant Knight, 3-1 Major Match, 4-1 Green Island, 5-1 Air Commander, 7-1 Vulrory's Clown, 10-1 Mad Casanova.

3.50 RACECOURSE AND COVERTSIDE NOVICES CHASE (£3,030: 3m) (9)

1 -11U THE RED ONE 7 (D,BF,F,S) P Haley 9-12-0 ... Mr S Swiers
2 PPU1 SANDSTONE ARCH 10 (F) T Caldwell 10-11-8 ... Pat Caldwell
3 F04U MAYTOWN 13 P Murphy 7-11-2 ... W Irvine
4 FP62 MR TITTLE TATTLE 55 (B,F) K Bailey 7-11-2 ... J Osborne
5 4002 OLD BRIG 13 (V,G) M Pipe 7-11-2 ... P Scudamore
6 -6PU QUICK RAPOR 55 T Forster 8-11-2 ... J White
7 PUF8 SKY VENTURE 15 C Trietline 9-11-2 ... D Bridgwater
8 OFP/P ANOTHER COLUMBUS 14 W John Smith 10-10-11 ... L Harvey
9 PARTY MAGIC Miss D Baker 11-10-11 ... T Wall

9-4 The Red One, 11-4 Old Brig, 4-1 Mr Tittle Tattle, 6-1 Sandstone Arch, 10-1 Sky Venture, 16-1 Quick Rapor, 20-1 others.

4.20 JOHN AND NIGEL THORNE MEMORIAL CUP (Hunter chase: amateurs: £1,607: 3m) (10)

1 504-P AHERLOW 18 (B,D,G,S) G Humphrey 13-12-0 ... C Bennett (7)
2 4-14 ARDESEE 38 (D,G,S) D Wintle 13-12-0 ... J Wintle (7)
3 /0-3 CORSTON SPRINGS 21 (G) M Jones 11-12-0 ... M P Jones (7)
4 1PP- CROCK-NA-NEE 388 (G,S) Mrs F Vigors 12-12-0 ... C Vigors (7)
5 -U22 GEMBRIDGE JUPITER 19 (C,F,G,S) C Trietline 15-12-0 ... C Trietline (7)
6 44/0 NORTH WOLD PARK 13 D Fletcher 9-12-0 ... C Ward Thomas (7)
7 -45F RAIN MARK 22 (C,G,S) M Chatterton 12-12-0 ... NON-RUNNER
8 2 RICHARD HUNT 16 V Rowe 9-12-0 ... Miss L Rowe (7)
9 U0U- SENATOR OF ROME 362 (D,F,G) H Wheeler 10-12-0 ... M Harris (7)
10 1-2 GUILD STREET 15 (F) P Jones 8-11-9 ... M Hammond (7)

3-1 Richard Hunt, 4-1 Ardesee, 5-1 Senator Of Rome, 7-1 Gembridge Jupiter, 8-1 Guild Street, 10-1 Corston Springs, 12-1 Crock-Na-Nee, 16-1 Aherlow, 20-1 Northwold Park.

4.50 IDLICOTE NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,480: 2m 6f 110yd) (7)

1 -4PP TEWTRELL LAD 176 (F) J O'Shea 10-11-10 ... J Lodder
2 -063 HOLY MACKEREL 14 N Henderson 6-11-8 ... J Osborne
3 245F RIVER RED 71 J Wade 7-11-6 ... N Williamson
4 6004 BILBO BAGGINS 15 (B) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-10 ... M Pitman
5 FP43 THE LINK MAN 15 Miss J Doyle 5-10-4 ... S Curran (7)
6 -UF5 EROSTINS SWAN 105 J Upson 7-10-3 ... R Supple
7 580 JUST BALLYTOO 21 (B) P Jones 6-10-0 ... W Marston (3)

5-2 Holy Mackerel, 3-1 Bilbo Baggins, 9-2 The Link Man, 5-1 River Red, 10-1 Erostin Swan, 14-1 Just Ballytoo, 20-1 Tewtrell Lad.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Forster, 17 winners from 57 runners, 29.8%; J Upson, 4 from 16, 25.0%; M Pipe, 19 from 88, 21.6%; N Henderson, 6 from 31, 19.4%; Mrs J Pitman, 9 from 55, 16.4%; K Bailey, 4 from 27, 14.8%.

JOCKEYS: P Scudamore, 13 winners from 50 rides, 26.0%; Peter Hobbs, 6 from 32, 18.8%; J Osborne, 5 from 27, 18.5%; A S Smith, 3 from 18, 16.7%; Diane Clay, 3 from 18, 16.7%; M Pitman, 3 from 24, 12.5%.

Blinkered first time

DONCASTER: 1.55 Great Max.

WINCANTON

THUNDERER
2.10 Quadrireme. 2.40 Champagne Lad. 3.10 Martomick. 3.40 Arctic Baron. 4.10 Star Of The Glen. 4.40 Ardbrin. 5.10 Wyjume.

GOING: FIRM — SIS

2.10 SOMERTON NOVICES HURDLE (£1,895: 2m) (6 runners)

1 F412 PHILIP'S WOODY 27 (D) N Henderson 5-11-8 ... J Kavanagh
2 0P00 BEACH BUM 24 Mrs J Young 7-11-2 ... G Upton
3 P04 ROCKET RUN 14 M Saunders 5-11-2 ... S Mackey
4 -6P0 TWO WAY MIRROR 180 R Frost 5-11-2 ... J Frost
5 5 QUADRIREME 28 (BF) J Old 4-10-8 ... T Grantham
6 P00 MISTY VIEW 28 J White 4-10-3 ... B Clifford

4-6 Philip's Woody, 5-2 Quadrireme, 9-2 Rocket Run, 10-1 Misty View, 7-1 Two Way Warrior, 10-1 Beach Bum.

2.40 EBF CORTON DENHAM NOVICES CHASE (£2,882: 2m 5f) (4)

1 1PPU POWDER BOY 6 (BF,F,G) Mrs J Dawe 8-12-3 ... D Salter (7)
2 B213 CHAMPAGNE LAD 13 (D,BF,F,G,S) J Gifford 7-11-10 ... P Hide (5)
3 0R51 LA CIENAGA 15 (D,F,G) G Balding 9-11-10 ... A Maguire
4 4P5P TEMPORARY 61 R Frost 8-11-3 ... J Frost

8-13 Champagne Lad, 15-8 La Cienaga, 10-1 Powder Boy, 16-1 Temporary.

3.10 MOTCOMBE MARES ONLY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,232: 2m 6f) (13)

1 4P66 ALLYFAIR 10 Mrs J Retter 8-11-2 ... M A Fitzgerald
2 00/ APRIL'S MODEL LADY 747 N Twiston-Davies 7-11-2 ... V Slattery (5)
3 5442 APSIMORE 5 J Tuck 6-11-2 ... S McNeill
4 20 BLAKEWAY 41 P Nicholls 6-11-2 ... R Greene (3)
5 5423 CALLAS ELECTRIC 17 (BF) D Nicholson 6-11-2 ... R Bellamy
6 P-P ELMO 108 S Sherwood 7-11-2 ... G Upton
7 /PPP LIZZIES LASS 30 F Gray 8-11-2 ... M Crosse
8 3236 MARTOMICK 8 (S) K Bailey 6-11-2 ... J Railton
9 0P0P MARY BOROUGH 22 Mrs J Young 7-11-2 ... M McGonagle (5)
10 00 MUTUAL AGREEMENT 114 R Frost 6-11-2 ... J Frost
11 0040 RABBIT'S FOOT 20 R O'Sullivan 5-11-2 ... P Hide (5)
12 D ZANY GIRL 41 (B) Mrs A Barclay 6-11-2 ... A Maguire
13 00P HIDDEN FLOWER 120 H Howe 4-10-7 ... M Hourigan (3)

2-7 Martomick, 8-1 Apsimore, 10-1 Callas Electric, 20-1 Blakeway, 25-1 Rabbit's Foot, 33-1 others.

3.40 HAMILTON LITESTAT YOUNG PRETENDERS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,207: 3m 1f 110yd) (4)

1 402F COOLE DODGER 14 (C,F,G,S) G Ham 5-11-10 ... C Maude
2 F512 PLAYPEN 37 (D,F,S) R Frost 9-11-8 ... J Frost
3 0P32 FATHER DOWLING 12 (G) G Balding 6-11-1 ... A Maguire
4 21-3 ARCTIC BARON 8 (D,F) Mrs J Dawe 5-11-1 ... N Dawe

13-8 Father Dowling, 9-4 Arctic Baron, 11-4 Playpen, 3-1 Coole Dodger

4.10 QUANTOCK HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,259: 2m) (5)

1 1001 STAR OF THE GLEN 14 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-10 ... B de Haan
2 3264 TEL E THON 124 (V,D,F,G) P Jones 6-10-13 ... D Leahy (5)
3 1-26 DEXTRA DOVE 159 (CD,F,G) P Hobbs 6-10-11 ... S Earle
4 350F PERE BAZILLE 6 (V,D,F,G) P Nicholls 6-10-0 ... M A Fitzgerald
5 0253 MISTER LAWSON 37 (D) B Forsey 7-10-0 ... I Shoemark

11-8 Star Of The Glen, 3-1 Tel E Thon, 7-2 Dextra Dove, 7-1 Pere Bazille, 10-1 Mister Lawson.

4.40 WEST COUNTRY VETERANS CHASE (£3,392: 2m 5f) (4)

1 3614 ARDBRIN 35 (D,BF,F,G,S) T Tate 10-11-2 ... –
2 PPF4 GREEN WILLOW 87 (D,F,G,S) J Gifford 11-11-2 ... D Murphy
3 3422 HEADIN' ON 160 (D,F,G) Mrs P Joynes 13-11-2 ... Mr S Joynes (7)
4 U660 OUR NOBBY 14 (B,D,F,G,S) D Elsworth 11-11-2 ... P Holley

1-3 Ardbrin, 5-1 Headin' On, 7-1 Green Willow, 12-1 Our Nobby

5.10 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,880: 2m) (6)

1 CALL HOME J Gifford 5-11-8 ... P Hide (5)
2 0 MERLIN ROCKET 44 R Callow 5-11-8 ... T Thompson (7)
3 CEFFYL DU D Burchell 4-11-0 ... Mr N Miles
4 ELEGANT BERTIE J Spearing 4-11-0 ... Miss T Spearing (7)
5 2 SON OF ANUN 6 W G M Turner 4-11-0 ... John McCabe (7)
6 WYJUME J Gifford 4-10-9 ... J J Brown (7)

9-4 Son Of Anun, 5-2 Call Home, 3-1 Wyjume, 7-1 Merlin Rocket, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs J Pitman, 26 winners from 69 runners, 37.7%; N Twiston-Davies, 5 from 17, 29.4%; D Elsworth, 22 from 102, 21.6%; D Nicholson, 14 from 69, 20.3%; S Sherwood, 3 from 15, 20.0%; N Henderson, 9 from 56, 16.1%.

JOCKEYS: M Hourigan, 5 winners from 20 rides, 25.0%; D Murphy, 5 from 28, 17.9%; B de Haan, 7 from 41, 17.1%; R Bellamy, 3 from 19, 15.8%; P Holley, 11 from 76, 14.5%; M A Fitzgerald, 8 from 61, 13.1%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS

Worcester

Going: good to firm (good in places)

2.20 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Ronans Glen (S J O'Neill, 11-8 fav); 2, Bank Place (5-1); 3, Welsh Cottage (16-1). 7 ran. NR: Don't Light Up. 3½l, 12l. M Wilkinson. Tote: £2.50; £1.40, £2.20. DF: £4.30. CSF: £8.19.

2.50 (2m ch) 1, Change The Act (J Osborne, 15-8); 2, Van Prince (Evens fav); 3, J J Jimmy (20-1). 5 ran. NR: Ballywilwill, Grondola (deemed not to have started). 4l, 20l. O Sherwood. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.66.

3.20 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Street Kid (Mr G Johnson Houghton, 3-1 fav); 2, Stately Lover (11-1); 3, My Key Silca (10-1). 13 ran. 4l, 1½l. R Johnson Houghton. Tote: £4.10; £1.60, £2.80, £3.10. DF: £20.60. CSF: £31.55. Tricast: £263.52.

3.50 (2m 7f ch) 1, Nougat Russe (D Bridgwater, 9-2); 2, Mossy Fern (15-8 fav); 3, Sandmoor Prince (66-1). 9 ran. NR: D'Or's Gem. 6l, 2½l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £7.40; £1.20, £1.50, £13.50. DF: £7.00. CSF: £13.19. Tricast: £450.23.

4.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Woody Will (J Osborne, 13-8 fav); 2, Smallmead Lad (16-1); 3, Vodka Fizz (7-4). 12 ran. NR: Persian Sword. 6l, nk. O Sherwood. Tote: £2.80; £1.30, £2.10, £1.40. DF: £12.70. CSF: £23.98.

4.50 (2m hdle) 1, Operation Wolf (G McCourt, 7-2); 2, Wheeler's Wonder (11-1); 3, Babler (11-10 fav). 14 ran. 1½l, ¾l. N Tinkler. Tote: £3.20; £1.80, £1.70, £1.20. DF: £15.40. CSF: £39.05.

Placepot: £6.40.

Kelso

Going: good to firm

2.00 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Babcock Boy (P Niven, 1-5 fav); 2, Davara (12-1); 3, Cop For That (22-1). 7 ran. 8l, 7l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £2.20. DF: £3.10. CSF: £3.84.

2.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, Algari (M Moloney, 2-7 fav); 2, Equator (12-1); 3, Coquet Island (25-1). 4 ran. 5l, 8l. G Richards. Tote: £1.20. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.63.

3.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Imhotep (P Niven, 5-4 fav); 2, Great Heights (2-1); 3, Coqui Lane (12-1). 10 ran. 12l, 3½l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £2.20; £1.40, £1.50, £2.20. DF: £2.30. CSF: £4.02.

3.30 (3m 1f ch) 1, Off The Bru (Mr J Bradburne, 2-1); 2, Four Trix (5-1); 3, Night Guest (100-30). Kirsty's Boy 15-8 fav. 4 ran. NR: Run Pet Run. 10l, nk. Mrs S Bradburne. Tote: £2.10. DF: £3.10. CSF: £9.69.

4.00 (3m 1f ch) 1, Davy Blake (Mr J M Dun, 8-13 fav); 2, Steele Justice (9-2); 3, Pollibrig (12-1). 4 ran. 3l, 10l. T Dalgetty. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.10. CSF: £3.45.

4.30 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Dizzy (A Dobbin, 13-8 fav); 2, Chantry Bartle (85-40); 3, Flowing River (2-1). 4 ran. 1½l, 4l. P Monteith. Tote: £2.30. DF: £2.90. CSF: £5.12.

Placepot: £36.00.

Exeter

Going: good to firm (firm in patches)

1.55 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Swahili Run (J Lower, 6-1); 2, Munka (8-11 fav); 3, Northern Saddler (9-2). 7 ran. NR: The Chancellor. 12l, 1½l. M Pipe. Tote: £5.90; £2.20, £1.10. DF: £3.80. CSF: £9.85.

2.25 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Surcoat (L Harvey, 6-1); 2, Mine's An Ace (5-1 jt-fav); 3, Allo George (14-1). Blasket Hero 5-1 jt-fav. 14 ran. NR: Lavalight. 8l, ¾l. R Baker. Tote: £6.00; £2.40, £1.80, £1.60, £2.80. DF: £30.90. CSF: £33.77. Tricast: £373.32.

2.55 (2m 2f ch) 1, Shu Fly (Jacqui Oliver, 100-30); 2, Saraville (4-5 fav); 3, Abu Muslab (6-1). 10 ran. 8l, 7l. C Broad. Tote: £4.90; £1.80, £1.30, £1.10. DF: £3.60. CSF: £6.26. Tricast: £13.83.

3.25 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Tudor Da Samba (P Scudamore, 3-1); 2, City Line (21-20 fav); 3, Ambassador Royale (7-1). 7 ran. NR: Shirl. Hd, 15l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £1.20. DF: £1.50. CSF: £6.04.

3.55 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Nova Spirit (S Mackey, 8-1); 2, Celcius (3-1); 3, Jadidh (2-1 fav). 7 ran. NR: Leavenworth. Nk, 2½l. M Saunders. Tote: £9.00; £3.00, £2.30. DF: £16.90. CSF: £27.89. Tricast: £47.41.

4.25 (3m 2f ch) 1, The Leggett (M Foster, 10-11 fav); 2, Up And Coming (6-1); 3, Mayoran (3-1). 5 ran. 5l, 1l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.90; £1.60, £2.00. DF: £3.20. CSF: £6.02.

4.55 (2m 2f flat) 1, Penultimate Hand (D Meade, 4-1); 2, Slipmatic (3-1 fav); 3, Tip The Dove (5-1). 13 ran. 12l, ¾l. T Forster. Tote: £4.40; £1.70, £1.90, £2.20. DF: £7.20. CSF: £16.32.

Placepot: £20.50.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (1m) 1, Keyway (G Duffield, 6-1); 2, Moon Strike (2-1 fav); 3, Dualque Chose (7-2). 11 ran. NR: Marshall Pindari. ¾l, 10l. M Prescott. Tote: £9.40; £2.90, £1.40, £1.40. DF: £9.80. CSF: £18.51.

2.40 (6f) 1, Appledorn (T Quinn, 4-5 fav); 2, Creche (3-1); 3, Jovial Kate (14-1). 7 ran. 6l, 2l. B McMahon. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £2.20. DF: £3.20. CSF: £3.91.

3.10 (1m) 1, Donozine (J Quinn, 11-4 fav); 2, Green's Fair (4-1); 3, Record Lover (4-1). 7 ran. 1l, 2l. C Hill. Tote: £4.30; £1.60, £2.40. DF: £13.30. CSF: £13.26.

3.40 (1m 6f) 1, Horizon (D Biggs, 3-1); 2, Karamoja (7-2); 3, Qualitair Rhythm (7-2). Atlantic Way 11-4 fav. 8 ran. 3½l, 2½l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £2.90; £1.70, £1.30, £1.60. DF: £11.60. CSF: £13.62. Tricast: £34.54.

4.10 (1m 4f) 1, Hierarch (Dean McKeown, 7-2); 2, Doc's Coat (20-1); 3, Deduce (13-8 fav). 13 ran. 1½l, 2½l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £4.80; £2.10, £4.80, £1.20. DF: £15.10. CSF: £76.10.

4.40 (5f) 1, Celestial Key (O Pears, 7-1); 2, Tino Tere (8-1); 3, Winrenng (9-1). Little Saboteur 7-2 fav. 12 ran. Hd, ½l. S Norton. Tote: £8.60; £2.30, £1.90, £2.80. DF: £68.90. CSF: £61.72. Tricast: £478.30.

Placepot: £30.80.

Scudamore trails

PETER Scudamore could only cut the lead of Richard Dunwoody in the jockeys' championship by one at Exeter yesterday.

Although Martin Pipe completed a treble the reigning champion only rode one leaving him 14 winners adrift.

RAPID RACELINE
FULL RESULTS SERVICE
0891-168-168
ALL COMMENTARIES
0891-168-268

0891-168+	COMM.	RESULTS	
DONCASTER	101	201	301
WINCANTON	102	202	302
STRATFORD	103	203	303
THURLES	120	220	320
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	322

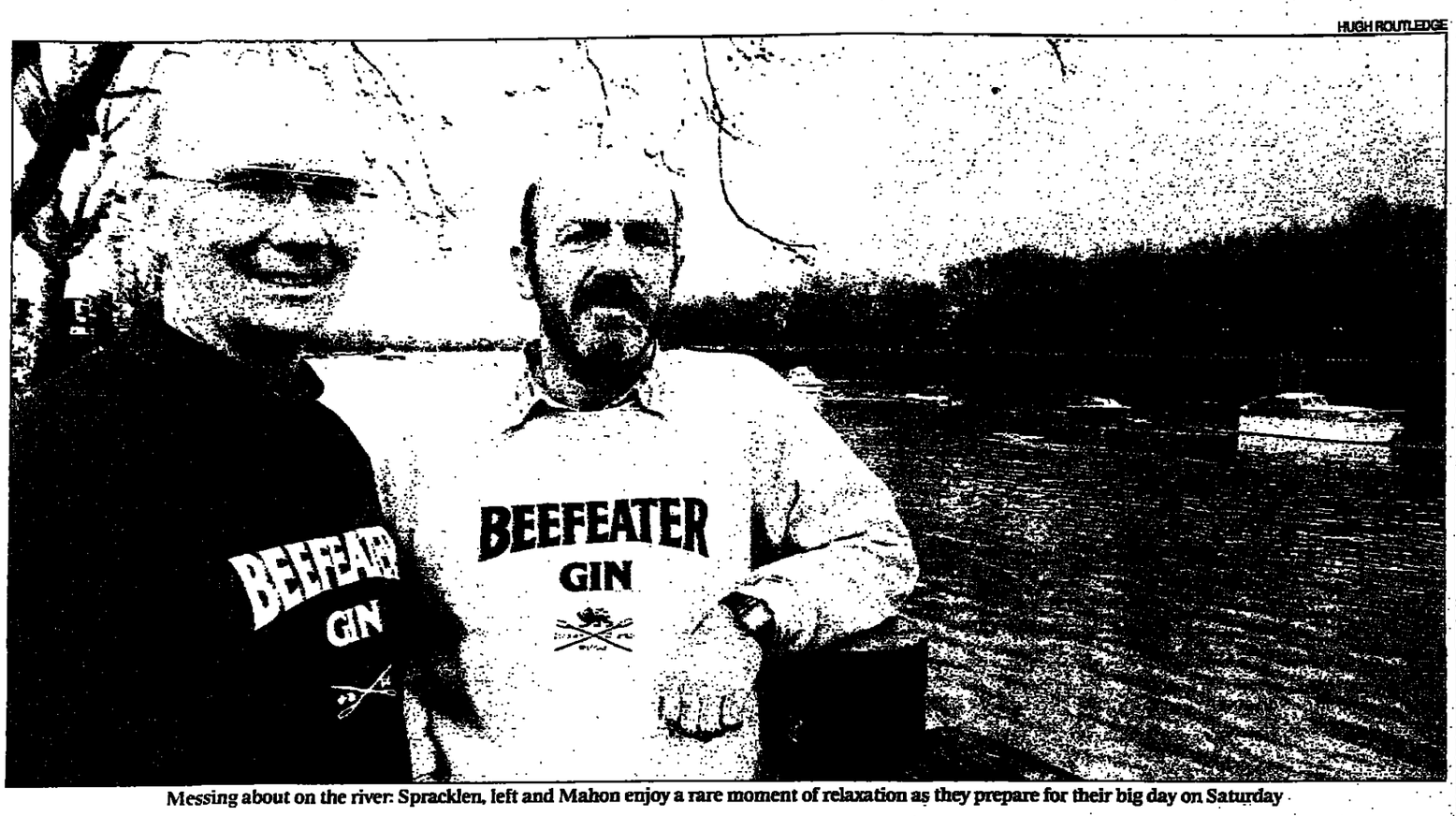
Calls charged at 36p/min cheap rate, 48p/min at all other times inc. VAT.

...m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; ...RLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102.
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
Travel Guide with Alastair McKenzie 8.00 Classic FM Concert: London Philharmonic under Bryden Thomson performs works by Bax 10.00 Adrian Love 1.00-6.00am Robert Booth

ACTING AS AGENTS FOR OWNERS ARRIAD TRAVEL LIMITED ATOL 2000

Coaches set pace on Tideway towpath

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Messing about on the river: Spracklen, left and Mahon enjoy a rare moment of relaxation as they prepare for their big day on Saturday

Mike Rosewell talks to the men who are finding different ways to motivate their crews for the Boat Race on Saturday

Mike Spracklen and Harry Mahon are the coaches who are putting the finishing touches to the crews in the Boat Race this Saturday. Spracklen is no stranger to the experience, having performed the service for Oxford five times in the last six successful years, but Mahon, a New Zealander, is doing so for Cambridge for the first time.

To add Spracklen and Mahon to the coaching talent already working with the crews would do justice to a national team. But with six senior international rowers, one under-23 international and one junior international in the two eights, the Boat Race has long since ceased to be a private match between two student crews.

While Oxford have been keeping everybody guessing about which oars they will use on Saturday — yesterday they switched from the experimental big blade to the conventional — Cambridge have surprised observers by following a series of unusual exercises set by Mahon, 51, intended to "produce relaxation and improve hand and eye communication". They avoided the Tideway last week in favour of Nottingham to avoid over-familiarity with the course and becoming caught up in the media attention.

Spracklen's pedigree as a coach to the leading Great Britain crews in the 1970s and 1980s speaks for itself. He coached Steven Redgrave to his first Olympic gold in a coxed four in 1984 and to subsequent world medals in the pairs. When Spracklen, 56, decided to leave his home in Marlow and move to Canada in 1989, there were many who regretted it.

It has been suggested that the Amateur Rowing Association should have given him more encouragement to stay, but Britain's loss was Canada's gain. Even Spracklen's more outgoing rival, Mahon, concedes: "Mike has brought Canadian rowing from nothing to everything". Part of that everything was a gold medal in the 1992 Olympic Games for his eight, which included the man who will be the Oxford No. 5 on Saturday, Bruce Robertson.

Mahon is no stranger to success. His reputation was made when his New Zealand eight won gold at the world championships in 1982 and 1983. Peter Irvine, a member of the New Zealand rowing hierarchy at the time, is coaching at St Edward's School, Oxford. Irvine remembers Mahon as "a great motivator", and talking to some of his present charges, the same message is received.

Mahon's globe-trotting has taken him to Switzerland, where he is chief national coach. Spracklen leaves Canada this month for a new squad coaching post in the United States, but both are preoccupied with Saturday's race.

This may be his first Boat Race, but Mahon seems well able to handle all the hype which attends it. "I am used to travelling around and coaching for the odd fortnight, for me it is just enjoyable," he said. He has been coming to this country at intervals to see Cambridge in the last few months. "It has been nice to see the progress they have made while I was away."

Spracklen has made no such visits but both men are aware that they are inheriting crews moulded by others. At Oxford, Steve Royle is officially director of rowing, but frequently has a megaphone in his hand.

He first became involved with Oxford in 1977 and coached his first Blue Boat in 1979. He took over as rowing director in 1987 and, during Oxford's run of 16 wins from 17 races, Royle has been involved in all bar one. The 1992 Boat Race was supposed to be his last. "I have got to earn some money," he said then, but he is still bringing an almost professorial approach to bear. His head coach for four of the past five years has been the ebullient Pat Sweeney, an international, multi-medal winning coxswain to Redgrave among others.

Cambridge rely on younger men — John Wilson, Sean Bowden and the Bulgarian, Vladimir Bachev — for everyday control. Wilson learnt his trade in Royle's Oxford camp until 1991. He tends to be the quiet spokesman. Bowden, who is the national coach for the Great Britain lightweights, does much of the weekly coaching.

TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford: 10am and 1.30pm (umpire's rehearsal). Cambridge: 9am and 1pm (umpire's rehearsal).

Hester unbeatable in selection trials

CARL Hester, a member of Britain's 1992 Olympic dressage team, completed a clean sweep at the selection trials at Addington Manor in Buckinghamshire yesterday when he won the grand prix on Giorgione (Jenny MacArthur writes). Hester, who relegated last year's winner, Emile Faurie, on Virtu, to second place, won the Intermédiaire II, also with Giorgione, and the Prix St Georges and Intermédiaire I with the East German-bred, Limmat. Both horses are owned by his employer and trainer, Dr Wilfrid Bechtolsheimer.

Hester's score yesterday was 921. Faurie and Virtu, one of the most attractive partnerships, totalled 905 and Carol Parsons, who was third on her much-improved Olympic horse, Vashka, had 883 points.

Addington Manor is to host its first international dressage event from June 18 to June 20. Riders from Germany, Holland, France and Belgium have accepted to compete at the new CDA (Concours Dressage d'Amitie or 'friendly international') which is being supported by PSI, the German-based Performance Sales International.

Roundhegians in dock

RUGBY UNION: Roundhegians, the Leeds-based club which plays in North East division one of the Courage Clubs Championship, has been deducted 12 points over irregularities in a match-report card. Two points were deducted for fielding unregistered players in the opening game against Keighley and ten more were docked because the report card showed different names to those of the unregistered pair. Sandal, who havesigned Bryan Barley, the former England centre from Wakefield, have been reinstated into the Heineken Yorkshire Cup and meet the holders, Otley, in the quarter-finals on April 6 because Middlesbrough, who beat them in the second round, fielded an ineligible player.

Ashley's decision day

BOXING: Crawford Ashley, of Leeds, must decide today whether he will meet Michael Nunn in Memphis on April 23 for the WBA light-heavyweight championship. "Crawford originally had 48 hours, now it's down to 24," Barney Eastwood, his manager, said yesterday. Ashley, despite campaigning in a higher division, has received a surprise offer to face Nunn, the super-middleweight champion. Henry Wharton, the British and Commonwealth super-middleweight champion, faces a substitute opponent, Tim Johnson, at Leeds Town Hall on April 7, hoping to maintain world title ambitions. Wharton was to have met another American, Troy Watson.

Aamodt's treble chance

SKIING: Kjetil Andre Aamodt, the double world champion, will be seeking his third successive race victory and his first in a downhill at Are, Sweden, today, in a storming finale to the men's World Cup season. Aamodt is in irresistible form, though it would be an outstanding feat for the Norwegian to overhaul Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, at the top of the overall standings in the last four races in Are. Aamodt won two races in Norway earlier this week to cut the deficit. Girardelli, who leads by 236 points, has an inflamed tendon in his left knee after a crash in Spain. Katja Seizinger, of Germany, chases the Austrian leader, Anita Wachter, for the women's overall title in the last downhill of the season.

McCrory injures back

BOXING: Glenn McCrory, the former International Boxing Federation cruiserweight champion, has been forced to pull out of his bout at Bethnal Green on Wednesday. McCrory, whose last contest in Britain ended in a second-round knockout by Lennox Lewis 18 months ago, injured his back in sparring yesterday. McCrory is hoping to challenge Carl Thompson for the British title later this year and Thompson now tops the bill on the Frank Maloney promotion in a ten-round bout against Steve John Harvey, of Oregon, who has won 12 and lost eight of his 20 contests. On the same bill, Adrian Dodson makes his professional debut against Chris Mulcahy.

Injuries worry Dampier

ICE HOCKEY: Britain sail into uncharted waters today in Pool B of the world championships in Eindhoven. It is more than 20 years since the national team has competed at such a level and a finish in the top two would qualify Britain for a play-off, looking for a place in the Winter Olympics next year. More realistically, the coach, Alex Dampier, sees his primary objective as consolidating the team's place in Pool B. There are doubts over several players, however, including the captain, Chris Kelland, who returned last weekend after a five-week absence through injury, and Tim Cranston, who has not played a league match since his release by Durham Wasps in November.

Prabhakar left out

CRICKET: India have omitted their all rounder, Manoj Prabhakar, from the final one-day international against Zimbabwe in Pune today. Prabhakar, a key member of the squad, gives way to the opening batsman, Woorkeri Raman. Ajay Sharma is given one more chance to impress at the end of a hard international season in which there was a remarkable turnaround in India's fortunes. After a disastrous tour of South Africa, Mohammad Azharuddin's men returned home to beat England 3-0 in the Test series. The all-rounder, Cec Pepper, once described by Sir Colin Cowdrey as "the greatest cricketer never to be capped by Australia", has died in Littleborough, near Rochdale, at 75.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Clubs fined £1,000 for league brawl

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ROCHDALE Hornets and Huddersfield were yesterday fined £1,000 each, with half suspended for a year, after a brawl during their second division match on March 3. The clubs were also severely reprimanded by the Rugby Football League after the inquiry in Leeds noted that substitutes had left the bench to join the flare-up.

The league's board of directors ordered the clubs to deal with the matter internally. They also referred the Huddersfield forward, Gary Senior, who is already serving a four-match ban for his dismissal against London Crusaders, to the disciplinary committee on April 1 for foul play.

Stuart Cummings, the referee, dismissed Karl Marriott, of Rochdale, and Huddersfield's Jason Fogerty, after the brawl.

In a separate hearing, Featherstone Rovers, who are bound for the first division next season, and Oldham, who are hopeful of promotion, were each fined £500, with half suspended for a year, after a brawl ten days ago. Brendon Tuuta, of Featherstone, who appeals against his six-match ban tomorrow, and Oldham's Tiny Solomona, who was suspended for four games, were sent-off for their part in the incident.

The former England and Orrell rugby union wing, Nigel Heslop, playing his third game for Oldham since switching codes, will miss the rest of the season after his jaw was broken in the melee.

Wigan, seeking their sixth Wembley final appearance in successive years, will be near to full strength for the Silk Cut challenge cup semi-final against Bradford Northern at Elland Road on Saturday. Dean Bell, their captain, Steve Hampson, Kelvin Skerrett, Frano Botica, Joe Lydon and Sam Panapa, a substitute, are fit again after injury.

Martin Offiah, a surprise omission from the Great Britain squad, occupies his usual position on the left wing. The only absentee will be the forward, Billy McGinty, who injured his knee in last week's 23-16 league defeat at Bradford.

"It's as good a side as I could hope to field at this time of the season," said John Monie, the coach of Wigan, who have won the cup for the last five years.

Lara hits 114 in easy win

BRIAN Lara, the West Indies opener, hit a fine century to lead his side to a comfortable four-wicket victory in the first one-day cricket international against Pakistan in Kingston, Jamaica on Tuesday.

Lara, 23, who scored his 114 off only 117 balls and hit one six and 11 fours, was later made man of the match. West Indies coasted to victory with six overs to spare after restricting Pakistan to 223 for six in their 50 overs.

After Desmond Haynes was dismissed for 21, Lara seized the initiative in an 80-run second-wicket partnership with Phil Simmons. When Simmons was bowled by Mushtaq Ahmed, the leg spinner, for 28, Lara was joined in a 79-run partnership by Richie Richardson, the captain, who was eventually yorked by Wasim Akram for 17.

Lara was fourth out four runs later when he was bowled attempting to sweep the left-arm spin of Aamir Sohail.

Earlier, Sohail and Inzamam-ul-Haq scored half-centuries for Pakistan.

FOOTBALL

Officials launch campaign to improve conditions

BY A CORRESPONDENT

LEADING referees and linesmen yesterday launched a campaign to repair morale. The officials who control Premier League and Football League matches want a better deal and have produced a 14-page discussion document listing their main problems.

The document was drawn up by the clumsily-named Association of Premier League and Football League Referees and Linesmen, whose president, John Deakin, launched it in London yesterday.

Deakin said: "Our aim is to enhance the status of match officials within the top professional game and hope that will have a knock-on effect at all levels.

"Morale among the association's 800 members has never been lower since I joined in 1977 and this represents the launch of a campaign for a better deal for referees and linesmen. The association believes it is time for referees and linesmen to make their views heard."

The document deals with six main issues: measurement of performance, physical fitness, education and training, manpower planning, conditions of service and funding. The areas of greatest concern include marking and assessment systems and remuneration.

Referees complain that they are not notified of their match performance markings made by club managers. They want a return to the old-style system of independent assessors for every match.

Referees earn £165 per Premier League match and £130 for a Football League game — well below the German level of £1,000 per game.

"We accept that simply earning more will not make referees better, but we still believe we are among the poor relations of Europe," Deakin added.

The association says that referees receive £8.33 per hour and linesmen £3.88 per hour. But Deakin denied that the document, entitled *Decision Time*, is simply aimed at increasing pay.

He said: "It is not purely about remuneration. It raises a number of issues designed to improve the quality of match control."

Copies of the document have been sent to all association members, the National Review Board for Referees and Linesmen, the Professional Footballers' Association and the Institute of Football Management and Administration.

Officials of the association hope a new deal can be introduced to stop the trickle of officials leaving the game becoming a flood.

☐ Xavier Gravelaine will play alongside Jean-Pierre Papin in France's forward line for the World Cup group six match against Austria in Vienna on Saturday. Gravelaine, who plays in midfield for his club, Caen, is the subject of transfer speculation linking him to Olympique Marseille and Paris Saint-Germain.

Gerard Houllier, the French coach, has decided to move the French league's top scorer forward in the absence of Eric Cantona, the Manchester United striker, who is suspended for the match.

Papin (bruised arm) and Franck Sauzee (Achilles tendon) both missed training earlier this week, but are expected to take their places in the French line-up. Houllier will employ the format used in the 4-0 win in Israel last month, with Eric Le Guen playing in front of a four-man defence.

WAY IN FRONT

If it's a test drive you're after, then call 0800 777 555* for your nearest Toyota dealer and find out why the car in front is a Toyota.

THE NEW CARINA E. FROM £10,399†

THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

† INC. VAT BUT EXCLUSIVE OF DELIVERY CHARGE OF £370 (INC. VAT), NUMBER PLATES AND ROAD FUND LICENCE. *THE TOYOTA SERVICE IS OPERATED ON BEHALF OF TOYOTA (GB) LTD.

Encouraging success for Argentinian

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A YEAR after breaking an ankle, Patricia Tarabini, of Argentina, beat the fifth seed, Manuela Maleeva-Fragnière, of Switzerland, by 6-3, 6-1 in the first round of the Virginia Slims of Houston tennis tournament yesterday.

Tarabini, who was injured while competing in the qualifying competition in the same tournament last year, took full advantage of her opponent's lack of match experience on clay.

It has been a hard road back for Tarabini, who as a 20-year-old in 1988 broke into the top thirty, before her career was interrupted when she fell during a a third-round match at Aix-en-Provence and needed ankle surgery.

Two more operations and a car accident followed, but Tarabini, whose ranking has dropped to 143, has shown she is determined to get back among the ranks of the leading players.

She had to win three qualifying matches in Houston to reach the first round. "I don't like to play qualifying rounds, but if you win, they give you a lot of confidence," Tarabini said.

Maleeva-Fragnière, who had not played on clay since losing in the third round of the French Open last May, said: "Maybe if I had had a less good opponent I might have got through. Patricia is a great clay-court player."

Tarabini broke service twice to take a 4-0 lead in the first set as Maleeva-Fragnière won only five points in the four games. Tarabini again surged to a 4-1 lead in the second set and despite a broken string in her racket hit a crisp, winning volley on match point.

Tarabini also beat Maleeva-Fragnière on clay in 1988, but the Swiss player won their last meeting, at the 1990 French Open, also in three sets.

Joe Durie was among the first-round losers, while in the only other match involving a seeded player, Katerina Maleeva needed three sets to dispose of Karin Kschwendt by 6-3, 2-6, 6-3.

☐ Total prize-money at this year's French Open will be more than $8.1 million, an increase of nine per cent, it was announced yesterday. The winner of the men's singles on June 6 will collect a cheque for $522,500, the women's champion receiving $486,000.

☐ The Olympic gold-medal winner, Mark Rosset, yesterday expressed his concern about Calcutta's heat and humidity as the Swiss team prepared for their Davis Cup world group first-round tie against India, which starts tomorrow.

"In Davis Cup, ranking does not always matter much. What matters is the home advantage and other factors like the weather," Rosset said. "India will obviously be spurred on by the home crowd, while we will get killed by the humidity. I definitely would have preferred to play in Switzerland and on clay."

Rosset, ranked 26th in the world, and Jacob Hlasek, ranked 33rd, face Leander Paes and Ramesh Krishnan, both ranked in the 200s, in both the singles matches and doubles tie on grass courts at the South Club.

SNOW REPORT

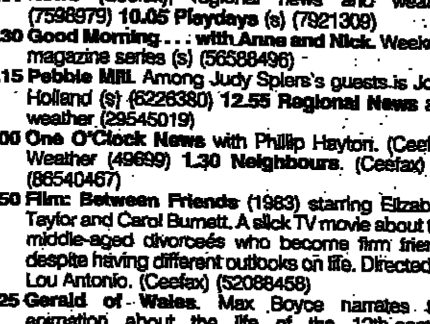
	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA							
Igls	0	85	firm	closed	cloudy	6	24/3
(Reasonable skiing on upper. 4 of 6 lifts open)							
Obergurgl	70	170	new	variable	snow	3	24/3
(Best on upper)							
Schladming	0	120	new	closed	snow	5	24/3
(Rain falling below 1,600m. Most lifts operating)							
Solden	5	75	new	variable	snow	3	24/3
(80% of area open. Best on upper)							
FRANCE							
Avoriaz	30	140	new	some	snow	5	24/3
(Spring snow with new snow on top. 31 lifts operating)							
Chamonix	10	300	new	poor	snow	5	24/3
(Best above 1,900m at La Flegere and Le Brevent)							
Courchevel	50	165	new	heavy	snow	4	24/3
(Best at La Saulire and La Creux. Area links open)							
Val d'Isere	100	180	new	heavy	snow	4	24/3
(Best at Pisaillas. Heavy below 2,000m. Area links open)							
BULGARIA							
Borovets	10	80	good	thin	sunny	10	12/3
(Best above mid-station. All lifts except lower drags open)							
SWITZERLAND							
Davos	30	190	new	some	snow	3	24/3
(All lifts, pistes open. Damp snow at most levels)							
Wengen	0	60	new	closed	light	4	24/3
(Upper in reasonable condition. Most lifts open)							
Villars	0	20	new	closed	light	6	24/3
(A third of the area is open with more snow needed)							
Zermatt	35	160	new	good changing		6	24/3
(Morning snow improved conditions: Good on upper)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

هكذا من الأمل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (92800) **7.00 Breakfast News** (75822854)
9.05 Kilroy. Topical studio discussion (s) (5902477) **9.45 Ross King.** Game show (s) (4298106)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7598979) **10.05 Playdays** (s) (7921309)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series (s) (56588496)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Among Judy Spiers's guests is Jools Holland (s) (6226380) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (29545019)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Phillip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (49699) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (86540467)
1.50 Film: Between Friends (1983) starring Elizabeth Taylor and Carol Burnett. A slick TV movie about two middle-aged divorcées who become firm friends despite having different outlooks on life. Directed by Lou Antonio. (Ceefax) (52088458)
3.25 Gerald of Wales. Max Boyce narrates this animation about the life of the 12th-century churchman (9738187)
3.50 Rupert. *Rupert and the Black Imp* (r) (2454125) **3.55 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams.** The 12th of a 13-part musical series (8636458) **4.10 The New Yogi Bear Show** (r) (1461380) **4.20 Dizzy Heights.** Comedy series set in a chaotic seaside hotel (9021748) **4.45 Haroun and the Sea of Stories.** Art Malik with the fourth of Salman Rushdie's five-part children's story (s) (3637125)
5.00 Newsround (1266748) **5.05 Blue Peter.** Includes details of the 1993 Fun Run. (Ceefax) (s) (6290729)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (584019). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (835)
6.30 Regional News magazines (187). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Top of the Pops (s) (2309)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (899)

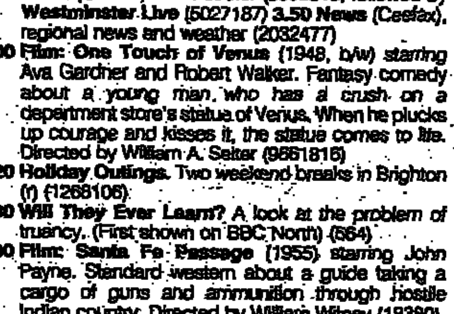


Mythical creature? a Komodo Dragon (8.00pm)

8.00 Wildlife On One: Enter the Dragons. David Attenborough goes in search of possible claimants to the mythical dragon and plumps for the Komodo Dragon, a monitor lizard living on the Sunda islands of Indonesia (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8729)
8.30 Side By Side. Comedy series starring Gareth Hunt and Louisa Rix as disparate neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (9944)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) *Regional news and weather (7962)*
9.30 Crimewatch File. A reconstruction of the police *hunt for the rapist and killer of three young women* between December 1985 and May 1986 (r). (Ceefax) *(277477)*
10.25 Question Time. Peter Sissons's guests are David Starkey, professor of international history at the *LSE*; Moira Constable, chief executive of the Rural Housing Trust; Pauline Green, MEP, and Kenneth Baker, MP (207926). Northern Ireland: Spotlight 10.55 Question Time
11.25 Law and Order. American crime series (s) (201962). Northern Ireland 11.55-12.40am Law and Order **12.15am Weather** (6384794). Ends at **12.20**
2.15-2.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club. Scrambled *(93775)* **3.00-4.00 RCN: Nursing Update** *(12775)*

BBC2

6.45 Open University: Understanding Space and Time — Relativity (4043458) **7.10 Maths Modelling:** Seat Belts (3544496) **7.35** Materials in Action: Phase Diagrams (7650699)
8.00 Breakfast News (3108632)
8.15 Westminster (4351274)
9.00 Daytime On Two. Educational programmes including, for children, **9.45 You and Me** (4296748) **1.20 The Adventures of Spot** (33427962) **1.25 Brum** (87788767) **1.35 Anytime Tales** (86466458)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (23055729) **2.15 Advice Shop.** Last in the welfare rights magazine series (8330729)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (3593816) followed by **Westminster Live** (5027187) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (2032477)
4.00 Film: One Touch of Venus (1948, *b/w*) *starring* Ava Gardner and Robert Walker. Fantasy comedy *about a young man who has a crush on a department store's statue of Venus. When he plucks up courage and kisses it, the statue comes to life.* Directed by William A. Seiter (9861816)
5.20 Holiday Outings. Two weekend breaks in Brighton (r) (1268106)
5.30 Will They Ever Learn? *A look at the problem of truancy.* (First shown on BBC North) (664)
6.00 Film: Santa Fe Passage (1955) starring John Payne. Standard western about a guide taking a cargo of guns and ammunition through hostile Indian country. Directed by William Witney (18380). Wales: Japanese Language and People 6.30 Making Time 7.00 Advice Shop
7.30 First Sight: Doctor or Dealer. Alison Holt investigates the controversy surrounding the *treatment of drug addicts by prescribing hard drugs* (941). Wales: Barking Mad; East: Matter of Fact; Midlands: Midlands Report; North, North-east, North-west: Close Up North; South: Southern Eye; South-west Close Up; West: Close Up West
8.00 The Snow Show. Muriel Gray visits Avoriaz, *France, and Aspen, Colorado (9699)*
8.30 Top Gear. Includes road tests on the Jeep *Cherokee and Ford Explorer (s) (8106)*
9.00 French and Saunders. Dawn and Jennifer pay *their tribute to The House of Eliott.* (Ceefax) (s) (8584)



Off to war: a father's fond farewell (9.30pm)

9.30 A Labour of Love. (Ceefax) See Choice (154187)
10.10 The Staggering Stories of Ferdinand De Bargos. Surreal comedy series (455835)
10.30 Newsnight *with Jeremy Paxman* (293835)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) *(344293)* **11.55 Weather** *(604980)*
12.00 Jumpcuts. A preview of the weekend's Open *University programmes (1065510)*
12.05am Doctors' Diagnoses. How computers can help *doctors (2979249). Ends at* **12.35**

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0839 121204 (calls charged at 48p per minute peak, 36p off-peak) or write to VideoPlus+, Accmac Ltd, 5 Ivory House, Plantation Wharf, London SW11 3TN. VideoPlus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Marketing Ltd.

CHOICE



Off to Oz: Gary Webster, George Cole (ITV, 8.30pm)

Minder: A Taste of Money
ITV, 8.30pm

The question for Arthur Daley fans tonight is whether the show can flourish away from its usual patch, away from the Winchester Club and the lugubrious Dave, the villains with the extraordinary names and the permanently exasperated cops. For Arthur is off to Australia, to claim the inheritance of great-uncle Joshua. But all is well for William Ivory's script goes with him. Arthur may be shorn of his customary props but the dialogue is so good it hardly matters. The first ten minutes alone contain enough gems to keep most West End comedies going for an evening. George Cole's performance is, of course, classic but *Minder's* freshness and longevity is just as much due to the continued high quality of the writing.

A Labour of Love: Bombs at Bedtime
BBC2, 9.30pm

Steve Humphries's superb social history series *recounts the experiences of ordinary people during the* second world war. The newsreels proclaimed an upbeat message but *the reality of family life* was division and danger. Children were evacuated, fathers *went off to join the forces and nightly bombing raids* set off fear and panic. Although this was not officially *admitted at the time, thousands* of people trekked out of the cities to escape the bombs. *A Labour of Love* is *ostensibly about bringing* up children, though its heroines are the mothers. In wartime, even more than in peace, they carried the burden of keeping the children safe and fed and the family together. Sometimes the strain became too much.

Disguises: Escape From Bosnia
ITV, 9.30pm

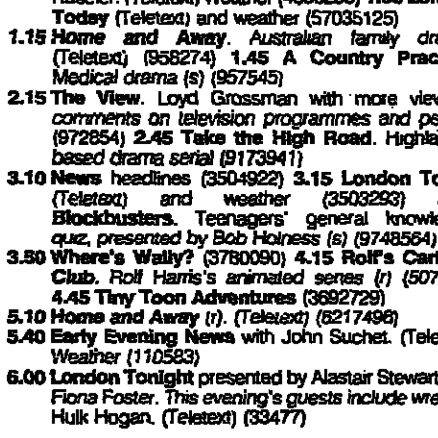
In its short life the undercover reporter format has thrown up some fine television and Adam Holloway's two-part report from the former Yugoslavia promises to maintain the standard. The ethnic cleansing of Bosnia has been well covered on television but Holloway *gives it an immediacy* by posing as one of its victims. As the stream of refugees leaves Banja Luka, *the Serb stronghold, for the safety of Zagreb,* Holloway travels with them as a deaf and dumb Muslim. Like any real refugee *without* the correct papers, he has to sleep where he can and is unable to leave the country. More than once Holloway draws parallels with the fate of the Jews under Nazi Germany.

The Goldring Audit
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Mary Goldring concludes her tour of privatised utilities by looking at electricity. It is another sharp and *forthright appraisal,* though *even Goldring finds* difficulty cutting a clear path through the industry's *labyrinthine structure. Nor does she offer any quick* solutions. On the great coal versus gas debate she is content to quote the views of others and *to accuse the* government of dithering towards a compromise that will upset everyone. *She leaves* the question of whether electricity companies are making huge profits and over-paying their chairmen to the random verdict of the man and woman in the street. The one certainty is that privatisation has not brought greater consumer choice, though a new breed of meter may change that in around 1998. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV with Michael Wilson, Eamonn Holmes and Lorraine Kelly (8521038)
9.25 Jeopardy! Back-to-front quiz game show (3458903) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7907729)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . (1526854)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday *magazine presented* by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (s) (48417534)
12.10 The Riddlers. *Infants' entertainment (6708361)*
12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia *Ruseler. (Teletext) Weather (4830293)* **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (57035125)
1.15 Home and Away. *Australian family drama.* (Teletext) (958274) **1.45 A Country Practice.** *Medical drama* (s) (957545)
2.15 The View. Loyd Grossman with more viewers' *comments on television programmes and people* (972854) **2.45 Take the High Road.** Highlands-*based drama serial* (9173941)
3.10 News headlines (3504922) **3.15 London Today** *(Teletext)* and weather *(3503293)* **3.20 Blockbusters.** Teenagers' general knowledge *quiz, presented by Bob Holness (s) (9748564)*
3.50 Where's Wally? (3780090) **4.15 Rolf's Cartoon Club.** *Rolf Harris's animated series (r) (507699)* **4.45 Tiny Toon Adventures** (3692729)
5.10 Home and Away (r). *(Teletext) (6217496)*
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Teletext) *Weather (110583)*
6.00 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and *Fiona Foster. This evening's guests include wrestler* Hulk Hogan. (Teletext) (33477)

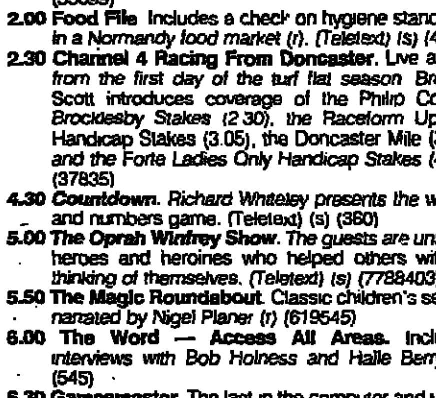


Settling in: Stan Richards as Seth (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale. Nick and Archie find Seth an annoying guest (Teletext) (7477)
7.30 3D presented by Julia Somerville. Includes a look at how police are trained to cope with a full-scale riot (767)
8.00 The Bill: The Price of Fame. WPC Page goes underground to investigate a scam (6125)
8.30 Minder: A Taste of Money. (Teletext) See Choice (91670)
9.30 Disguises: Escape From Bosnia. See Choice (38922)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) Weather (91903) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (450421)
10.40 Big City. A guide to London's entertainments scene (s) (572854)
11.15 Film: That Sinking Feeling (1979) starring Robert Buchanan and John Hughes. Comedy by *Gregory's Girl* director Bill Forsyth about a group of jack-the-lads who *steal* a consignment of stainless steel sinks and have trouble getting rid of them (243361)
12.55am The Twilight Zone: Paladin of the Lost Hour. A tale of the supernatural, starring Danny Kaye *(8124572)*
1.30 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (66220)
2.00 America's Top Ten *(s) (95713)*
2.30 Donahue. Phil Donahue chairs a discussion on *couples who are happily married but still date other* people (22626)
3.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: In the Driver's Seat. A murder mystery (r) (65572)
4.00 Entertainment UK. Leisure-time guide (r) (58065)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (60484)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Neilson (31317)

CHANNEL 4

5.50 Sesame Street. Early-learning series (r) (6958699)
6.45 Dennis. Animated adventures of a mischievous youngster (r) (9032545)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (22922)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby *(s) (86980)*
9.30 Schools (691835)
12.00 The Parliament Programme. *Anne Perkins with a* round-up of news from both Houses (98816)
12.30 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series (51564)
1.30 Chicken Minute. Children's puppet series (r) (s) *(55699)*
2.00 Food File Includes a check on hygiene standards in a *Normandy food market (r). (Teletext) (s) (4903)*
2.30 Channel 4 Racing From Doncaster. Live action *from the first day of the turf flat season.* Brough Scott introduces coverage of the Philip Cornes *Brocklesby Stakes (2.30),* the Raceform Update Handicap Stakes (3.05), the Doncaster Mile (3.35) *and the Forte Ladies Only Handicap Stakes (4.05)* (37835)
4.30 Countdown. *Richard Whiteley presents the words* and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (360)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. *The guests are unsung* heroes and heroines who helped others without *thinking of themselves. (Teletext) (s) (7788403)*
5.50 The Magic Roundabout. Classic children's series, *narrated by Nigel Planer (r) (619545)*
6.00 The Word — Access All Areas. Includes *interviews with Bob Holness and Halle Berry (s)* (545)
6.30 Gamesmaster. *The last in the computer and video* games series. The guests are hockey international *Sean Kerly and ice hockey star Kevin Conway (125)*
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab *Badawi. (Teletext) (529854)*
7.50 Comment. Angus Crichton-Miller on why Britain *should adopt Central European Time (165854)*
8.00 The Comper Queen. A profile of prolific enterer of *competitions, Rita Smallburn (r) (4787)*
8.30 The Secret Life Of . . . The Office presented by *Tim Hunkin. (Teletext) (3274)*



Illuminating appraisal: Mary Goldring (9.00pm)

9.00 The Goldring Audit: Electricity. (Teletext) See Choice (4854)
10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. In advance of Channel 4's *Gimme Shelter* season, a repeat of the episode of the comedy in which Damien lives rough for a week to learn for himself what life is like for London's down-and-outs. Starring Stephen Tompkinson (s) (99545)
10.30 Harry Enfield's Guide to the Opera. The lighthearted look at the world of opera this week finds Harry soaking up the atmosphere in Italy (s) (574212)
11.05 The Avengers (b/w). Vintage spoof secret agent adventures starring Patrick Macnee and Honor *Blackman (108038)*
12.10am Dispatches. A repeat of last night's programme on *Aids in Africa (5037317)*
1.10 The Dick Powell Theatre: Special Assigment. Drama about a dying *multi-millionaire* who hires a lawyer to see if the people he has left money to in his will really love him. Starring June Allyson, Jackie Cooper, Mickey Rooney and Barbara Stanwyck (8146794). Ends at **2.10**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9748564) **5.10-5.40** Billy (6217496) **6.00** *Home and Away* (907212) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (849835) **10.40** Anglia Tonight (535212) **11.10** Wideangle (349748) **11.50** Prisoner: Cell Block H (693108) **12.35** Coach (6390355) **1.05** Wrestling (1407317) **1.45** Film: Blue de Ville (265826) **3.30** America's Top Ten (7478268) **4.05** Nite Bites (65234133) **4.15** Betty Boo (19676423) **4.30** Riviera (35862) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (60464)

BORDER
As London except: 2.45-3.10 Wild World of the East (9173941) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (9748564) **6.00** Lookaround (903) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (583) **10.40** Westminster File (53521) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (446090) **12.05** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (2966775) **12.35** Coach (6390355) **1.05** Wrestling (1407317) **1.45** Film: Blue de Ville (265826) **3.30** America's Top Ten (7478268) **4.05** Nite Bites (65234133) **4.15** Betty Boo (19676423) **4.30** Riviera (35862) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (60464)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (958274) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (957545) **3.20-3.50** GP (9748564) **5.10-5.40** Short Story Theatre (6217496) **6.00** Home and Away (907212) **6.25-7.00** Central News (982903) **10.40** Married...with Children (535212) **11.10** 1st Night (316800) **11.40** The Equalizer (325293) **12.30** Coach (19807) **1.00** Hollywood Report (3353794) **1.35** The Little Picture Show (3808030) **2.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (74220) **3.00** America's Top Ten (5895862) **3.35** Raw Power (5804510) **4.35** Jobfinder (7209249) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2576201)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (957545) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (9748564) **6.00** *HTV News* (903) **6.30-7.00** You're the Boss (583) **10.40** The West This Week (178187) **11.25** HTV Weekend Outlook (308038) **11.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (618800) **12.35** Coach (6390355) **1.05** Wrestling (1407317) **1.45** *Film: Blue de Ville* (265826) **3.30** America's Top Ten (7478268) **4.05** Nite Bites (65234133) **4.15** Betty Boo (19676423) **4.30** Riviera (35862) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (60464)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** The Really Helpful Programme **7.30-8.00** Get Wet **10.40** A Slice of Life **11.25** Weekend Ahead **11.40** Wales and Westminster **12.10-1.05** Prisoner Cell Block H

MERIDIAN
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9748584) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (903) **6.30-7.00** Grass Roots (583) **10.40** The Pier (572854) **11.20** Prisoner: Cell Block H (442274) **12.15** War of the Worlds (490591) **1.15-1.30** The Twilight Zone (1685258) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (60464)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9748564) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (903) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (583) **10.40** Put It in Writing (535212) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (446090) **12.05** Film: Circus of Horrors (920210) **1.50** America's Top Ten (2622133) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2177881) **2.50** Film: Twin Beds (443572) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (9209133)

ULSTER
As London except: **6.00-7.00** *UTV* Live at Six (33477) **10.40** Counterpoint (535212) **11.10** Film: Damien — Omen II (471629) **1.05** Wrestling (6829794) **1.45** Film: Blue de Ville (698607) **3.30** America's Top Ten (7478268) **4.05** Nite Bites (65234133) *4.15* Betty Boo (19876423) **4.40** Riviera (35862) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (60464)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (957545) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (9748564) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry *Live* (33477) **10.40** Commando (535212) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (446090) **12.10** Disaster Chronicles (4387171) **12.35** Coach (6390355) **1.05** *Wrestling* (1407317) **1.45** Film: Blue de Ville (265826) **3.30** America's Top Ten (7478268) **4.05** Nite Bites (65234133) **4.15** Betty Boo (19676423) **4.30** Riviera (35862) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (60464)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (9748564) **5.55** Calendar (502767) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (583) **10.40** Edit V (535212) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (446090) **12.05** Film: Circus of Horrors (920210) *1.50 America's Top Ten* (2622133) **2.20** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2177881) **2.50** Film: Twin Beds (443572) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (9209133)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (22922) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (86980) **9.30** Ysgolion (691835) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (98816) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (43800) **1.00** Sesame Street (44583) **2.00** Food File (4903) **2.30** Channel 4 Racing (95070421) **4.25** Slot 23 (3259903) *5.00 Countdown* (8583) **5.30** Gamesmaster (632) **6.00** News (350380) **6.10** Heno (969036) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (5019) **7.30** Tony Ac Aloma (309) **8.00** Adlais (4767) **8.30** News (272485) **8.55** Treson (397903) **9.30** Harry Enfield's Guide To the Opera (36564) **10.00** Drop the Dead Donkey (99545) **10.30** *Film: Angel* (62453632) **12.10** The Word — Access All Areas (2963688) **12.40** The Guardian Interview — Ken Loach (6397268) **1.10** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (36366584) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (6815870) **9.10** Cartoons (2232187) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (61274) **10.00** Strike It Rich (20090) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (49564) **11.00** Hart to Hart (70583) **12.00** Falcon Crest (84125) **1.00pm** E Street (81699) **1.30** Another World (4050787) *2.15 Santa Barbara* (414800) **2.45** Maude (526699) **3.15** Different Strokes (516212) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5474293) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4922) **6.00** Games World (1564) **6.30** E Street (2816) **7.00** Rescue (5651) **7.30** Family Ties (8800) **8.00** Melrose Place (26034) **9.00** Chances (23038) **10.00** WKRP in Cincinnati (31545) **10.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation (53187) **11.30** Studs (26274) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am *Sunrise (42381)* **8.30** *News and* Business Report (288870) **9.30** Nightline (54748) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (12274) **11.30** International Business Report (32616) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (16090) **1.30** Good Morning America (24019) **2.30** Parliament Live (9763632) **3.15** Parliament Live (2451496) **4.30** News and Business Report (1941) **5.00** Live at Five (39458) **6.30** News and Business Report (42632) **7.30** *Financial Times* Reports (2870) **10.30** Nightline (51729) **11.30** ABC News (32108) **12.30am** *Financial Times* Reports (86591) **1.30** ABC News (60336) **2.30** Beyond 2000 (85794) **3.30** ABC News (97539) **4.30** *Financial Times* Reports (99336) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (86881)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.00am Showcase (2656870)
10.00 Torn Apart (1989): A Jewish boy and an Arab girl fall in love (76106)
12.00 Blue (1968): Western (35922)
2.00pm Gunfight in Abilene (1967). Bobby Darin plays a sheriff (25816)
3.30 Tail Gunner Joe (1977): Biopic of *senator Joe McCarthy (147564)*
6.00 Torn Apart (as 10am) (20941)
8.00 Men Don't Leave (1990): Jessica Lange fights to keep her family together after her husband dies (60478)
10.00 The Haunted *(1991): A house is* possessed by demons. Starring Sally Kirkland and Jeffrey DeMunn (550038)
11.35 Kid (1990): C. Thomas Howell avenges the murder of his parents (674477)
1.10am Prison *(1988): The spirit of an* executed inmate stalks the cells (163794)
2.50 The Decameron (1970): Eight bawdy medieval tales *(746171)*
4.35 My Son Johnny (1991): Rick Schroder drives Corin Nemec to murder (2295171) Ends at **6.05**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Lawrence of Arabia (1962): Peter *O'Toole stars as T.E. Lawrence (60327496)*
9.45 Coming Home (1978): Jane Fonda befriends paraplegic war veteran Jon Voight (82083729). Ends at **11.50**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.30am The Hurricane (1937, b/w): Drama on a tropical island (58980552)
8.20 Around the World in 80 Days: *Animation (4009019)*
9.15 Snow White in Happily Ever After: Cartoon (3167372)
10.35 Whoopee! (1930): Busby Berkeley musical with Eddie Cantor (39572651)
12.10pm The Adventures of Marco Polo (1938, b/w): With Gary Cooper (335093)
2.00 Absolute Strangers (1991): Henry Winkler's wife lies comatose (361729)
3.45 Around the World in 80 Days (as 8.20am) (1760699)
4.40 Snow White in Happily Ever After (as *9.15am) (8897651)*
6.00 Star Trek — The Next Generation: Unification (1991): Captain Picard meets Spock on the planet Romulus (28583)
8.00 Filofax (1990): James Belushi as*sumes the identity of Charles Grodin (27800)*
10.00 Let Him Have It (1991): Fact-based drama about Derek Bentley (98854)
12.00 The Hot Spot (1990). Don Johnson's duplicitous schemes backfire (56350442)
2.15am Father, Son and the Mistress (1992): Millionaire Jack Lemmon tries to reunite his family (745317)
3.50 This Earth is Mine (1959): Drama set in California's Napa valley. Starring Claude Rains (836387) Ends at **5.50**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Morning Stretch (71748) **7.00** British Basketball (73862) **9.00** Morning Stretch (17564) **9.30** German Football (11274) **11.30** Morning Stretch (11729) **12.00** Ringside (75564) **2.00pm** Irish Snooker (922477) **5.00** High Five (2583) **5.30** Snowboarding (4293) ***6.00** Soccer News (693787)* **6.03** WWF All-American Wrestling (30903) **7.00** Netbusters (9019) **7.30** European League Round-Up (81767) **8.30** The Boot Room (7274) **9.00** US PGA Golf (71699) **11.00-1.00am** Irish *Snooker (82125)*

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (45483718) **8.00** Car Racing *(82564)* **9.00** *American* Basketball (67545) **11.00** Alpine Skiing, women's downhill (90361) **12.00** Alpine Skiing, men's downhill (36187) **1.00pm** American Basketball (45835) **2.00** NHL Ice Hockey (42187) **4.00** Equestrian (29748) **5.00** Alpine Skiing (3458) **6.00** Free Style Skiing (6274) **6.30** Eurosport News (7534) **7.00** Trans World *Sport (47832)* ***8.00** Ford Ski Report (56380)* **9.00** Football 1994 World Cup Qualifiers (19361) **10.30** European Basketball (65309) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (30826)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (52851019) **6.15** Button Moon (52859274) **6.30** Bucky O'Hare (8663380) **7.00** Bravestarr (2090477) **7.30** Neighbours (2002212) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1619922) **8.30** EastEnders (1618293) ***9.00** The Bill (1609545)* ***9.30** The* Onedin Line (6811477) **10.30** Juliet Bravo (3022545) **11.30** To the Manor Born (9553449) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (1629309) **12.30pm** Neighbours (6821835) **1.00** EastEnders (2099748) **1.30** The Bill (6820106) **2.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (2540835) **2.30** Three Up, Two Down (5243309) **3.00** Dallas (5953485) **4.00** Dynasty (6408570) **5.00** Candid Camera (2531187) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (5247125) **6.00** Neighbours (5244038) **6.30** The Onedin Line (1511187) **7.30** 'Allo 'Allo! (5224274) **8.00** EastEnders (2560699) **8.30** Three Up, Two Down (2549106) **9.00** *Juliet Bravo (2318787)* ***10.00** The Bill* (1620038) **10.30** Camon Confidential (1606458) **11.00** The Kenny Everett Television Show (1553629) **11.30** Dr Who. The Silurians With Jon Pertwee (6650816) **12.00** Film: *The Man in Grey* (1943, b/w) starring Phyllis Calvert and James Mason (3808336) ***1.35-2.00am** Video Bites (29326220)*

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Stones Without Words (59699) **6.30** *Cartoon Capers (9497274)* **7.15** *Kissy Fur* (248854) **8.45** Jack in the Box (889944) **10.45** Stones Without Words (931632) **11.15** Cartoon Capers (9574125) **12.00** Clowning Around (44632) **12.30pm** Mask (79816) **1.00** Jack in the Box (53689) **3.00** *Kissy Fur* (55187) **4.00** Spiff and Hercules (9767) **4.30** T-Rex (8651) **5.00** TVFM (8647) **5.30** Saved by the Bell (9903) **6.00-7.00** Fame (87835)

SPAIN ~
A Summer Holiday
with flights for 2
~FREE!



A luxury 7-day holiday for two on the Costa del Sol, flights included, can be yours FREE when you buy a week of timeshare with Barratt. Choose from The Doña Lola Club in Spain, or any one of the nine luxury Barratt Resorts in Spain, Scotland, Wales or England.

Buying with Barratt opens the door to so many holiday options, plus exchange to over 2,000 other RCI resorts worldwide. The free holiday week offer applies to the purchase of any week in Red-Time, Summer or Christmas, and weeks start from as little as £2,750.

Call Barratt Timeshare for full details now.

CALL BARRATT TIMESHARE
~ 021 635 4911 ~

FW/TI/1

BARRATT INTERNATIONAL RESORTS, 11A THE WHARF, BRIDGE STREET, BIRMINGHAM, WEST MIDLANDS B1 2JS. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY THE BARRATT TRAVEL CLUB ACTING AS AGENTS FOR OWNERS ABROAD TRAVEL LIMITED ATOL 2600

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Maths — Transforming Graphs
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew Lyle, including Debussy (Danse sacrée et danse profane); Vivaldi (Concerto in F for two horns, RV538); Biber (The *Annunciation, Mystery Sonata* No 1); Prokofiev (Symphony No 1 in D, Classical)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Kurt Weill in the Twenties: Donald Macleod presents The Berlin Requiem and Happy End
10.00 Attacca con Brio: A Sequence of Composers' Pet Hates. Ravel *(Piano Concerto* in G: Martha Argerich; LSO under Claudio Abbado); Saint-Saëns (Clarinet Sonata in E flat, Op 167: Gervase de Peyer, Gwenneth Pryor, piano; *La cigale et la fourmi:* Stephen Varcoe, baritone, Graham Johnson, piano); Strauss *(Dance of the Seven Veils,* Salome: Berlin State Opera *Orchestra under the* composer); Schoenberg (Peripetie, Five Orchestral Pieces, Op 16: Berlin PO under James Levine; Schein uns, du liebe Sonne; Three German Folksongs; Vielseitigkeit, Three Satires, Op 28: BBC Singers under Pierre Boulez); Stravinsky *(Piano* Sonata: Boris Berman; As I was saying, *The Rake's* Progress: Sarah Walker, mezzo, *Philip Langridge, tenor;* London Sinfonietta under Riccardo Chailly); *Glazunov* (Ballet, The Seasons: SNO *under Neeme Järvi)*
12.00 Czech Chamber Music (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Chérubin: Bavarian State Opera Chorus; Munich Radio Orchestra under Pinchas Steinberg perform Massenet's opera, to a libretto by Francis de Croisset and Henri Cain. Sung in French. With Frederica Von Stade in the title role
3.10 Kathryn Stott, piano, plays Mendelssohn (Rondo capriccioso in *E, Op 14*); George Lloyd *(The lily leaf and the grasshopper); Ravel (Gaspard de la nuit)* (r)
3.55 Ulster Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins performs *Busoni (Violin Concerto* in D: *Yu Yusuraoka*); Schumann, orch Mahler (Symphony No 3 in E flat, Rhenish)
5.00 In Tune: Peter Paul Nash's guest is André Hebbelinck, music co-ordinator of Antwerp, cultural capital of Europe 1993
7.30 BBC SO in Friedrichshafen: Andrew Davis conducts Strauss (Don Juan); Stravinsky (Violin Concerto: Christian Tetzlaff); Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis); Sibelius *(Symphony No 5 in E flat)*
9.15 Anthem for Doomed Youth: Kenneth Branagh reads from the war poems and letters of Wilfred Owen
9.30 Celebrating Evening Prayer: A service for the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, from Lavenham *Parish Church, Suffolk*
10.15 Bluebird Blues: The Bluebird *record* label during the thirties and forties (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Robert Hewison talks to Richard Eyre, director of the National Theatre, about his autobiography
11.30 BBC Philharmonic under *Edward Downes performs* Elgar (Overture, Alassio, In the *South); Rachmaninov* (Symphonic Dances)
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.00 Night School (except in Scotland: as R5 at 1.05pm)
2.30-3.10 Night School Extra

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** *Weather* **6.10** *Farming Today* **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** *Today,* incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze, chaired by Michael Buerk
9.45 Famous for 15 Minutes: See Choice
10.00-10.30 News; Crampton Hodnet (FM only): First of a six-part adaptation by Elizabeth Proud of Barbara Pym's novel. With Elizabeth Spriggs as *Miss Doggett,* Stephen Moore as Francis *Cleveland and Samantha* Bond as Jessie Morrow
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 The Bible (LW only): The Gospel of Mark. Juliet Stevenson reads the final part
10.30 Woman's Hour talks to Pauline Clare, assistant chief constable of Merseyside police. *Incl* ***11.00 News***
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Litmus Test: Fred Harris chairs the light-hearted science quiz **12.55** *Weather*
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) *1.55 Shipping*
2.00 News; The Marshalling Yard, by Ted Moore. Ken (Tom Georgeson) struggles to maintain order in a railway goods yard, while his co-workers vie for his attention and his wife is admitted to hospital with depression
3.00-4.00 News; Prime Minister's Questions (LW only)
3.00 Radio Lives (FM *only*): In the fourth of six portraits, Roisin McAuley traces the story of Audrey Russell (r)
3.42 RSVP (FM only): Matthew Parris investigates a letter that reveals the relationship between *James I and the* Duke of Buckingham (r)
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope meets the country singer Nancy Griffiths; talks to Vikram Seth about his new novel, *A Suitable Boy:* and reports on the Arts Council's initiative for regional theatre
4.45 Short Story: The Secret, by Catherine Merriman. Read by Tessa Geering
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Burnt: Dennis Waterman stars as Mikie in Nigel Baldwin's political thriller *set in north* Wales (3/6) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 *The Archers*
7.20 Soundtrack: The Making of Christine. See Choice
8.00 Analysis: Out of the Red. John Lloyd investigates market reforms in Russia
8.45 Does He Take Sugar? with Kati Whitaker. For listeners with disabilities
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Inseparable Twins, by Anatoly Pristavkin. John Hurt reads the fourth of ten parts
11.00 The Blackburn Files: A Case of Hard Times. Private eye Stephen J. Blackburn investigates a pub quiz scam. Starring Finetime Fontayne
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)



Soundtrack: The Making of Christine. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

Euphemism should have no place in a documentary that deals seriously with a sex change, as this one does. All praise, then, to Jean *Snedegar's* account of how Chris, father of two children, ultimately faced up to the reality of his sexual ambivalence, had the operation and became *Christine.* There is no soft-pedalling in this programme; the physical, psychological and social readjustments he/she had to make are all *here. So are the reorientations* that family and friends had to make which, given the drastic nature of Chris's transformation, were surprisingly few.

Famous for 15 Minutes. *Radio 4, 9.45am.*

Michael Fagan, the painter-decorator who twice broke into Buckingham Palace — the first time, to take a swig from a bottle of *Californian* wine, and the second time to see the Queen in bed — regales Jenni Mills with yet another version of what happened back in *1982. The big difference,* he says, *is that this time,* it is the whole truth and nothing but he is telling. Even toned down, the tale makes astonishing listening. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates *12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Jakki Brambles* **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Mark Goodier's Mega Hits **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Mark Goodier's Evening Session **9.00** In Concert: Fishbone and Youssou N'Dour, recorded at the 1992 Glastonbury Festival **10.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** John Sachs **5.05** *John Dunn* **7.00** *For Better or for Worse:* A comedy by Vince Powell (7/8) **7.30** Wally Whyton **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** Sax *Silver Strings: Guitar music* **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade with Digby Fairweather **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm. 6.00am** World Service: World News. **6.09** News About Britain; **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.15** Schools: Together — An Assembly for Schools **9.35** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** BFBS Worldwide **12.30pm** Kitchen Cabinet **1.05** Schools: Let's Make a Story; **1.20** Listening and Reading 2; **1.30** The Song Tree — Music Course 1; **1.45** In the News **2.10** A Game of Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **7.15** Nothing Ever Happens Here: *Children's thriller (4/5)* **7.30** *Formula Five* **8.00** Vibe **9.30** Red Devils. Football drama (5/10) **10.10** Eastern Beat **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather News **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** World and British News **6.14** Travel News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Network UK **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report Live **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** *News Summary* **10.01** *Assignment* **10.30** *Much Binding in the Marsh* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 2 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** World News **2.05** Outlook Live **2.30** Off the Shelf. Raag Darbari **2.45** Recording of the Week **3.00** News **3.15** Classics with Kay **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News and Business Report **5.14** Travel **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** *News* **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.10** News About Britain **10.15** Network UK ***10.45** Sports Roundup* ***11.00** News* ***11.05** World Business Report* **11.15** Music Review **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Eastern Sounds **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Seven Seas **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** The Man in Black **3.00** News **3.10** News About Britain **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** News **4.15** Meistersingers

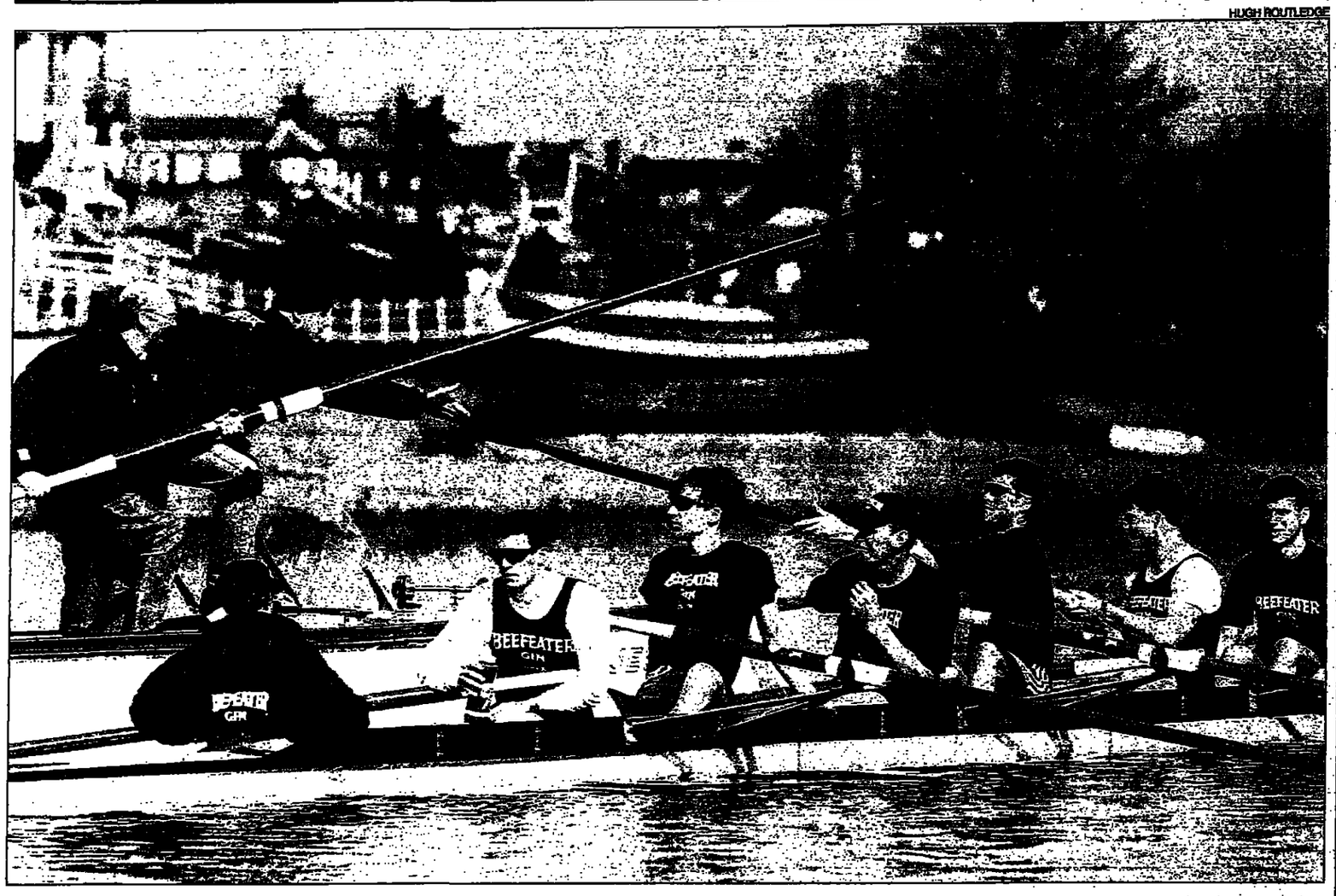
CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Arensky (Piano Concerto: Stephen Coombs); Charpentier (Te Deum) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Classic Travel Guide with Alastair McKenzie **8.00** Classic FM Concert: London Philharmonic under *Bryden Thomson performs works by Bax* **10.00** *Adrian Love* **1.00-6.00am** *Robert Booth*

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102.
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY

SPORT

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



All change: Oxford's crew switch from experimental to conventional oars midway through practice on the Thames yesterday. The Dark Blues are still undecided which they will use in Saturday's Boat Race (Mike Rosewell writes). In their morning outing they boated from Putney sporting the new cleavers but, after paddling to Barnes and halfway home, the crew stopped and Steve Royle, Oxford's director of rowing, handed out their old set of blades.

The conventional Macon set had been stowed unseen in the launch and the crew finished their outing with these. The afternoon contests with the Old Blues crew were also undertaken with the Macons, raising speculation that they will use them on Saturday.

Whatever the decision, the crew members will not worry unduly. They have all used cleavers in their international and domestic careers and the switch can be made without much preparation. Some coaches last summer raced with cleavers and moved back to conventionals for some training before switching again to the big blades just before a race. The British eight in the Olympics last summer used both types.

Oxford's indecision is probably linked to two factors: the non-standard length of the Boat Race — four and a quarter miles as opposed to the 2,000-metre distance of most of their races — and the unpredictability of Tideway conditions.

Finishing touches, page 42

Souness faces touchline ban

BY KEITH PIKE

GRAEME Souness, the Liverpool manager, is almost certain to receive a touchline ban from the Football Association after being ordered from the dugout during their Premier League match against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park on Tuesday night.

Souness will be reported by Roger Dilkes, the referee, for using abusive language to a linesman. Dilkes instructed Souness to watch the last eight minutes of the game from the front row of the stand.

Souness, already furious *that a goal by Rush had been* disallowed for offside, leapt to his feet to remonstrate with the linesman when Armstrong was allowed to score Palace's equaliser in a 1-1 draw, despite what appeared to be a foul on James, the Liverpool goalkeeper.

Souness's record will not stand him in good stead. He has served one match of a five-game Uefa touchline ban after an outburst at a referee during Liverpool's Cup Winners' Cup game against Spartak Moscow last October, and twice incurred similar punishments from the Scottish FA when he managed Rangers.

"Referees are always saying they want to get together with managers," Souness said. "If I can't ask a linesman about an incident I thought was a push, *there's something wrong.*"

A last-minute setback prevented the £1.5 million exchange deal involving Kevin Gallacher, of Coventry, and the Blackburn forward, Roy Wegerle, being completed yesterday, although it is expected to go through today. The delay over Blackburn completing enquiries into Gallacher's fitness led to Coventry withdrawing Wegerle from last night's league game with Sheffield United at Highfield Road.

Nottingham Forest have decided against making a fresh offer for Stan Collymore, the Southend forward. They have had offers of £1.5 million and £1.75 million rejected, and after watching him play in Southend's 4-0 defeat at Notts County on Tuesday, Ron Fenton, the Forest assistant *manager, said: "We've made* our final offer. If they come back to us, something could still happen."

Martin Allen, the West Ham United midfield player, was yesterday suspended for four matches and fined £1,000 by the FA. Allen, who has been booked 12 times this season, was ordered to appear before a special FA disciplinary committee after becoming the first professional player in England to top 41 points for the season.

His suspension starts this Saturday. Also missing will be Julian Dicks, his team-mate, who starts a two-match ban. Dicks was cautioned for the fortieth time in five years during their 1-0 defeat by Oxford United at the Manor Ground on Tuesday night.

The West Ham manager, Billy Bonds, who has already fined Dicks and stripped him of the club captaincy, said: "It is obvious we have had a disciplinary problem this season and it is something we are going to have to try to put straight."

Alan Little was yesterday appointed manager of York City. Little, whose brother, Brian, is in charge at Leicester City, succeeds John Ward, who took over at Bristol Rovers on March 12.

Little has been caretaker manager since Ward left and is understood to have turned down the opportunity of going to Rovers as Ward's assistant.

Newcastle-born Little, 38, played for Aston Villa, Southend, Barnsley, Doncaster, Torquay, Halifax and Hartle*pool, where a broken leg* ended his playing days eight years ago.

Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday players will be the first to have their names displayed on shirts for a major Wembley cup final in a one-off experiment next month. The Coca-Cola Cup finalists will have their names above their shirt numbers for the match at Wembley on April 18.

Oldham yesterday completed the £300,000 signing of Darren Beckford, the Norwich forward.

Crystal Palace have signed the forward, Louie Donowa, and the goalkeeper, Martin Thomas, on loan from Birmingham City until the end of the season.

The Republic of Ireland goalkeeper, Gerry Peyton, has rejoined Brentford on a free transfer after being released by Everton. Peyton played 17 games for Brentford during a three-month loan spell at Griffin Park earlier this season.

America in $20m launch to promote World Cup

MIXING some uniquely American symbols with footballs, World Cup organizers yesterday began their $20 million advertising pitch to sell the 1994 event to the American public.

The first phase of a print and television campaign to prepare Americans for the World Cup uses cowboys, homesteaders, Neil Armstrong on the moon, and — possibly the most disturbing to Americans — a 1940s-era American football players with a soccer ball under his arm in Heisman Trophy-like pose.

This "American Icon" print campaign will begin next week along with a series of ten, ten-second television commercials featuring video clips from last year's European championship and closing with one of World Cup's ten leading sponsors.

The print campaign will also include "advertorials", an advertisement that looks like a magazine story, featuring American sports heroes' feelings towards the World Cup. The stated purpose of the advertisements is to educate the public, one which is largely ignorant of soccer, and also create hype.

Critics have repeatedly predicted a flop of the World Cup in the United States, but the World Cup chairman, Alan Rothenberg, pointed out several areas where he says interest has exceeded expectations.Rothenberg noted the 27 cities that bid to host World Cup games and events — the most ever, a deal with the ABC network and ESPN cable channel to televise all 52 games and, the most recent example, a near sell-out of the private sale of World Cup tickets to the "American soccer family."

Despite disappointment by some, such as Pelé, who has said he was discouraged by the lack of media attention towards the World Cup in the United States, Rothenberg said he felt the attitude was changing. "We're getting more and more written in newspapers," he said. "If you compare it with a year or two years ago, it's improving. We get excellent coverage. But we have to be careful of not peaking too early. It's still 15 months away. You have to build with blocks. You can't build artificially."

Topliss loaned to raise French spirits

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

GREAT Britain's rugby league team is aiding the opposition by loaning out David Topliss, the Wakefield Trinity coach, to raise France's flagging *esprit de corps* and instil greater tactical awareness in preparation for their second international tomorrow week.

Topliss, the former Great Britain stand-off half and national under-21 team manager, will have two training sessions with the French and oversee them at Headingley. "I'll be trying to get some method into their play. I'm as partisan as anyone, but it's important to work on improving the challenge they can provide us," Topliss said.

French resistance was at its feeblest in the record 48-6 home defeat by a weakened Britain three weeks ago, resulting in the plea for help to the Rugby Football League.

Topliss can only concentrate on improving defence to prevent Great Britain inflicting further embarrassment and bringing into question the continued worth of the two annual fixtures. With comparatively few countries playing the game, the League is anxious not to disenfranchise an important member state.

"France have realised they need to adapt to the modern game, as we did after looking at Australian methods," David Howes, the League's spokesman, said. "It's a matter of them looking to the future, and this kind of cooperation could develop further, as Hull are showing by inviting young players from France to spend time with them."

Steve Pilgrim, the banned former Wasps and England B rugby union full back, is to make his debut in the Halifax Alliance side tomorrow at home to Castleford, after failing last week to win a contract with Leeds.

☐ Rugby league supporters have overwhelmingly rejected plans for a switch to two divisions, in which three clubs will be axed. More than 400 readers took part in a telephone poll conducted by the *Rugby Leaguer* newspaper, with a ratio of 11 to one opposing the changes, which are set to be introduced for next season.

Clubs fined, page 42

Mansell given rare vote of confidence by Prost



Prost: critical of IndyCar

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN SÃO PAULO

ALAIN Prost and Damon Hill, colleagues at Williams, Formula One motor racing's leading team, yesterday offered contrasting opinions on the threat posed to their side of the sport by IndyCar racing in the wake of Nigel Mansell's winning debut in Australia on Sunday.

As the grand prix cavalcade assembled here at the edge of São Paulo, Prost, the man whose signing hastened Mansell's departure from Williams, appeared to give the man who was for so long his bitter rival a rare vote of confidence. "I think it is normal that Nigel won the race," Prost said. "Nigel is by far the best driver in IndyCar."

Prost's praise, though, was the prelude to an attack on Mansell's new code. "On the technical side, there can be no comparison with Formula One: we are far ahead," he said. "In IndyCar, the show is more important than everything else. It would be ridiculous to worry about IndyCar because it is a different mentality, a different country and another world."

Hill, though, was a little more circumspect in his assessment of the threat posed by Mansell's new event. "They do not have the same strength in depth of talent that Formula One has," he said. "IndyCar is essentially a domestic series".

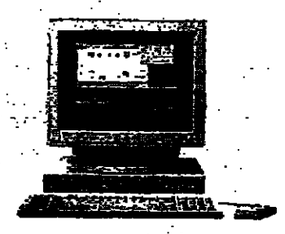
"Television coverage is the bottom line, and if sponsors can get the same coverage for less money in IndyCar, then that could be a snag. The problem, though, would arise if Senna or Prost ever went over there, too. It only takes two people of similar ability to make a race and that would turn things round quite a bit. But I don't believe that will happen. Prost and Senna believe that Formula One is the pinnacle and I think they want to stay here."

McLaren confirmed yesterday that Senna will remain in Formula One for at least one more Grand Prix. The negotiations between the Brazilian and Ron Dennis, owner of the team, are still continuing, but Senna has been named alongside Michael Andretti as a definite starter in Sunday's race. The grand prix will be without the March team, however — they pulled out of the world championship yesterday, leaving 26 cars to contest the series.

Prost's appearance at Interlagos was secured last Thursday when Fisa decided not to punish him for comments he is alleged to have made to a French magazine. "I am very pleased," the Frenchman said yesterday. "It would have been ridiculous to suspend me and bad for the sport." Hill, meanwhile, said he was looking forward to improving on his first race for Williams at Kyalami, when he spun on the first lap and was then shunted off by Alessandro Zanardi as he strove to work his way back up the field. "I will be doing pretty badly to be worse than that," he said.

MORSE

Secrets of the Software World.



IT is an "open" secret that Oracle Corp, the largest database vendor on Earth, choose Sun as the primary development platform for its next generation RDBMS products.

It might be the sheer number-crunching speed of Sun SPARCstations. Or Sun's expertise in distributed client/server computing. They might have been swayed by Sun's robust UNIX development environment, symmetric multiprocessing and multi-threading.

Or just reassured that Sun are the world's fastest growing computer company.*

Thus ORACLE users on Sun have the benefit of earliest access to new products, like the latest release, ORACLE7. For more information, please phone Morse Computers.

Sun Microsystems Computer Corporation
Authorised Business Centre

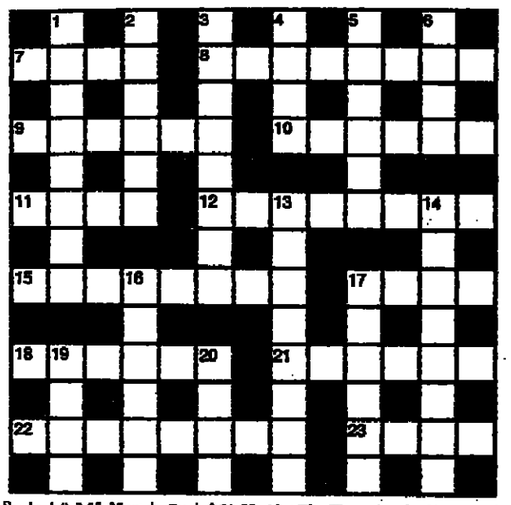
"Sun's up there"
*Fortune Magazine's Global 500, 1992

Morse Computers Ltd. 081-876 0404.

CONCISE CROSSWORD No 1055

ACROSS
7 Ammunition (4)
8 Eagle-like (8)
9 Language akin to Czech (6)
10 Water down (6)
11 Chancy (4)
12 Go wild (3,5)
15 Freshwater turtle (8)
17 Route (4)
18 Requesting (6)
21 Furrow cutter (6)
22 Extra (8)
23 Frolic (4)

DOWN
1 Modest charge (5,3)
2 Escorted group (6)
3 Theatrical setting (8)
4 College court (4)
5 Zigzag ski race (6)
6 Tangle (4)
13 Alley bowls (8)
14 Class (8)
16 Dried grape (6)
17 Curly coat dog (6)
19 Team (4)
20 Get advantage (4)



SOLUTION TO NO 3054

ACROSS: 1 Tutor 4 Surface 8 Rearguard 9 And 10 Sup 11 Indicator 12 Treat 13 Lithe 16 Whitewash 18 Noh 20 Red 21 Essential 22 Stand-by 23 Every

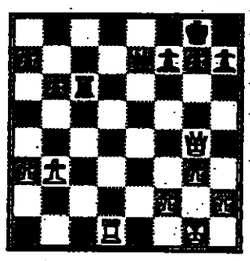
DOWN: 1 Terms 2 Traipse 3 Regain the lead 4 Shandy 5 Radical change 6 Await 7 Endorse 12 Towards 14 Tontine 15 Marshy 17 India 19 Holly

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords range: Book 1 (cryptic) £4.99, Book 2 (cryptic) £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords: Books 14 & 15 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery in 8 days. For details of all Times Crossword books and software, call Akom Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDS Doncaster on 0302 810 000.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Novikov — Rhodin, Bern 1993. This position contains the classic ingredients for a winning combination: black has a weak back rank and his queen and rook are both unprotected. White to play and win.



Solution on page 39

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

DAPPING
a. Eyeing lasciviously
b. Fishing
c. The fringe of a carpet

TEUCRIUM
a. A Trojan helmet
b. A grey-leaved shrub
c. The seventh vertebra

TEUCHTER
a. The fourth son
b. A small gazelle
c. A Highlander

KARREN
a. Nordic Sirens
b. Limestone fissures
c. A Cornish coracle

Answers on page 39